

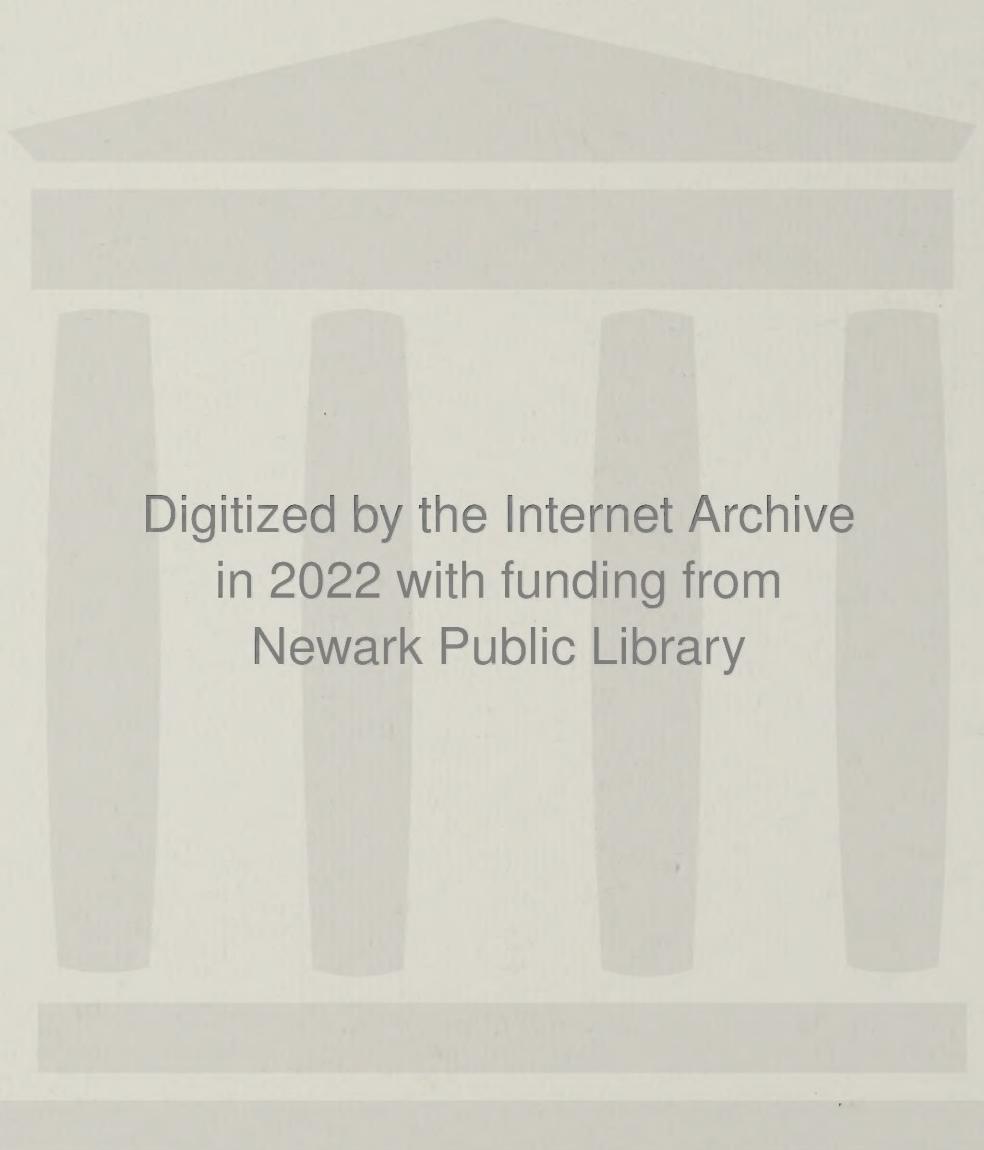
We Shine in...



09

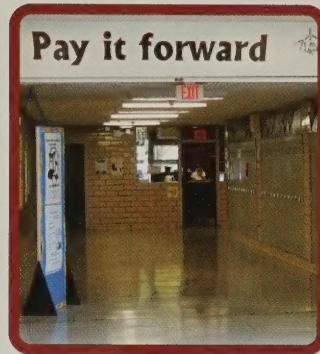
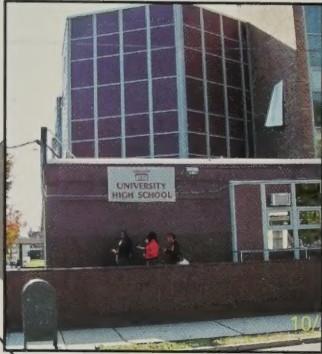
Library





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# *University High School*

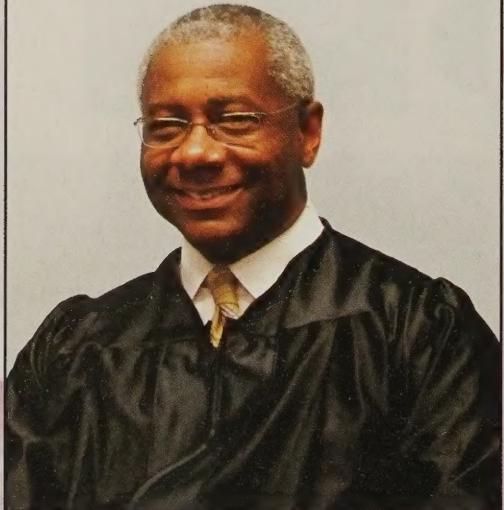
55 Clinton Place  
Newark, NJ 07108

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# Principals' Benedictions



Claude S. Bey  
Principal

Historically speaking, you are the first class to graduate from University High School at the time when the United States of America is being lead by the first African-American President, Barak Obama. Student leaders you are and as you move forward it is critically important that you carry those leadership qualities with an inner thirst for knowledge. You have made me extremely proud and I am sure that President Obama would be equally, as proud. As a nation, we are facing unprecedented challenges. The challenges that we face will demand that you meet and exceed your educational and life long career goals.

The time is now. Move forward with all the energy, vision and focus necessary to reach your goals. Remember the need to provide service to your community and cherish the many friendships that you have forged at University High. And of course always remember to "Pay It Forward"! Congratulations!!

Yes you can!!

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek asks too little of yourself. Because it's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential."  
Barack Obama

Remember this as you go forward into a world full of opportunities for you to be the catalyst of change. Congratulations to all of you. It has been an honor being your vice principal.

Good luck class of 2009!



Regina Sharpe  
Vice-Principal

# Humanities

**Peter Conolly**

B.A. Rowan University



**Susan Febinger**

B.A. Rutgers University



**Jose Velazquez**

B.A. Columbia University  
M.A. Montclair State University



**Mary H. Leotsakas**

B.A. Montclair State University



**Domonique Hargrove**

B.A. Montclair State University



**Elizabeth Blackmon,**  
**Deptmt Chairperson**

B.A. University of North Carolina  
M.Ed. Montclair State University



**Stacey Ann Graham**

B.A. Pratt Institute

**Dahlia Evans-Vertrees**

B.A. University of Arkansas  
M.A. University of Arkansas



# English and World Languages



**Cynthia Guinn, Department Chairperson**

B.A. City College of New York  
M.A. City College of New York

**Scott Hood**

B.A. University of Texas  
M.A. Montclair State University



**Didi Schiele**

B.A. Monmouth University



**Susan Ruesta**

B.A. Montclair State University



**Tracy McNamara**

B.A. Richmond the International American University in London



**Marie Gironda**

B.A. Rutgers University  
M.A. Rutgrs University



**Dr. Rita Manas**

B.A. Kean University  
M.A. Seton Hall University  
Ph.D Rutgers University



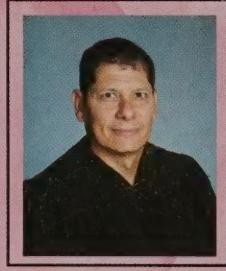
**Shelia Gray**

B.A. Kean University



**Marilyn Howard**

B.A. Wlliam Patterson  
M.A. Kean University



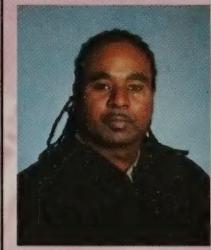
**Richt Rubio**

M.S. Fordham University  
B.S. University of Panama  
Ph.D. Seton Hall University



**Alina Dunker**

B.A. Georgian Court College



**Makentorche Julien**

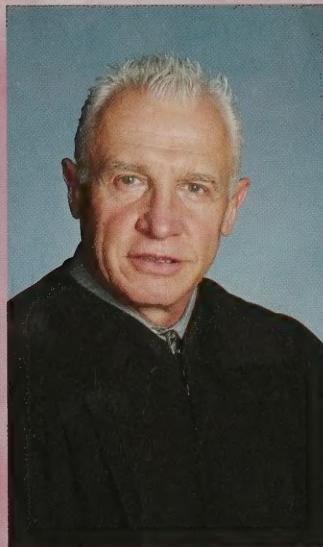
B.A. Oneonta State University  
M.A. Saint Peter's College

# Science



**Sheila Kairu**

B.S. Rajastham University  
M.A. Rajastham University



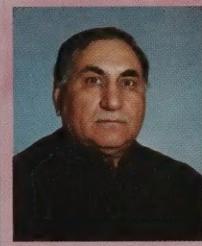
**Walter Kaczka, Department Chairperson**

B.A. New Jersey City University  
M.A. New Jersey City University



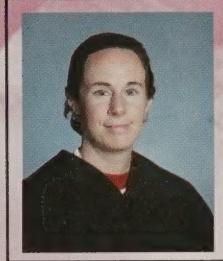
**Nicole Loiseau**

B.S. Morris Brown College  
M.S. New Jersey Institute of Technology



**Dr. Fazal Rahimi**

B.A. Kabul University  
M.S. University of Hawaii  
Ph.D. Rutgers University



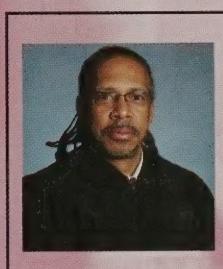
**Kathleen Tierney**

B.A. Saint Joseph's University  
M.A. Saint Peters University



**Debra Rojy**

B.A. Duglass College  
B.A. Rutgers University



**Robin Corley**

B.A. Montclair University  
M.A. Seton Hall University



**Timothy Simmons**

B.A. Seton Hall University  
M.A. Seton Hall University



**Marion Noyes**

B.A. Montclair State University  
M.A. Montclair state University



**Samar Newsome**

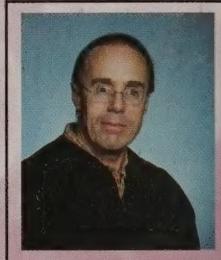
B.A Rider University

# Mathematics and Technology



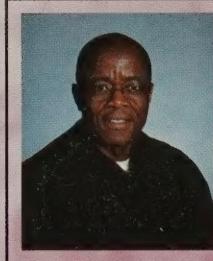
**David Scutari**

B.A. Pennsylvania State University  
M.A. Montclair State University



**Auhur Davis**

B.A. University of Vermont  
M.A. Montclair State University



**Joel Bleah**

B.S.E. Florida Tech University  
M.A. Florida Tech University



**Zakiyyah Muhammad**

B.A. Montclair State University  
M.A. New Jersey City University

**Babita Kukreja**  
B.A. Kean University



**Angelica Osoria**

B.A. Montclair State University  
M.A. Montclair State University



**Pushpalatha Sanjai**

B.A. University of Poona India  
M.A. University of Bombay  
M.A. Annamalai University

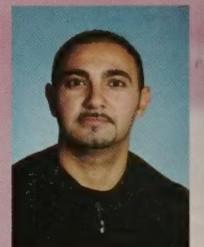


**Milagros Ortiz**

B.A. Kean University

**Michael Khalil**

B.A. New Jersey City University



**Einara Cartaya**

B.A. New Jersey Institute of  
Technology



**Victoria Sirov**

B.S. E Philippine Normal University  
M.A. Ateneo de Manila University

# Health and Physical Education



**Robert Jones**  
B.A. West Chester University



**Anna D'Antonio**  
B.A. Brooklyn College  
M.Ed. Georgian Court University

**Jerome Alexander**

B.A. Seton Hall University



**Michelle Wilson**  
B.A. William Patterson University  
M.A. University of Phoenix

**Paul Cirlincione**

B.A. Montclair State University



**Colleen McCaan**  
B.A. Stockton State

# Guidance Services



**Alicia Mahon, Department Chairperson**

B.A. Virginia State University  
M.A. New Jersey City University

**Monic Lockett**  
B.A. Rutgers University  
M.A. Kean University



**Felecia Williams**

B.A. Morgan State University  
M.Ed. Loyola College



**Dr. Grace Beaumont**  
B.S. Long Island University  
M.S. New Jersey City University  
Ph.D. Eastern University



**Lawren Bridgeforth-Heart**  
B.A. Montclair State University  
M.A. New Jersey City University



**Sandra Ryder**  
B.A. Rutgers University



**Esther Pak**  
B.S. Rutgers University  
M.A. New York University



**Dr. Kalenah Witcher**  
B.A. Stanford University  
M.A. Columbia University



**Sherell Benders**  
B.A. Ramapo University  
M.A. Montclair State University



# Instructional Services

**Iftikar Husain**

B.S.C. AMU Aligarh University  
M.S.C. New Jersey City University



**Miriam Rosenbaum**

B.A. Rutgers University  
M.A. New Jersey City University



**Pamela Stuckey**

A.S. Essex County College



**Patricia Sampson**



**Liza Lopez**

B.A. S.U.N.Y New Platz  
M.A. Herbert H. Lehman  
J.D. Rutgers Law



**Yvette Holmes**



**Linda Melvin-Salaam**



**Antoinette Davis-Fleming**



# Support Services



Chart Wells  
Right to Left: Denise McLaurin,  
Lavonne Johnson, Gloria  
Thomas, and Francis Pena

**Samuel Dunbar**  
**Head Custodian**



**Frances Wright**  
**Security**



**William Short**  
**Custodial Staff**

**Daisy Pasker**  
**Security**



**Shirley Parker**  
**Custodial Staff**



**Otis Clinton**  
**Security**



**Basim Shariah**  
**Custodial Staff**

**Roosevelt Walker**  
**Custodial Staff**



**Stewart White**  
**Custodian**

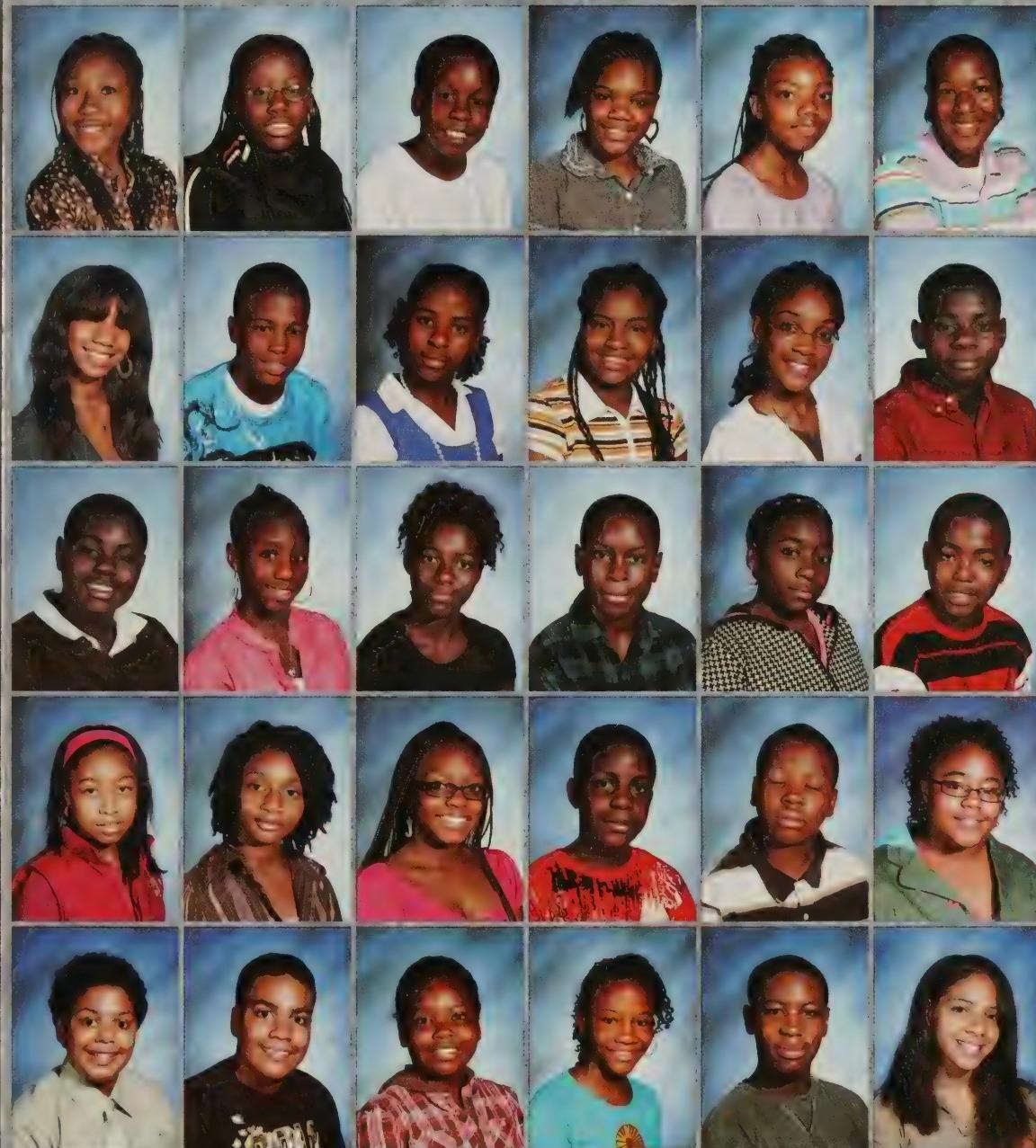


**Jack Hatcher**  
**Security**



**Lamont Chapman**  
**Custodial Staff**

# GIFTED & TALENTED



Maryjane Akunor  
Ayanna Battles  
Royce Brathwaite  
Amber Brown  
Brianna Butts  
Asia Christmas

Zenja Cisco  
Ja-ki Crawford  
Adeola Dada  
Sabriyya Ford  
Alisha Francois  
Elijah Gardener

Isaiah Gardner  
Indira Hartman  
Taniah Irving  
Jason Iyunade  
Ebony Jackson  
Marquis Johnson

Quadriyyah  
Jumuah  
Sonia Martin  
Aliyah Mitchell  
Dexter Nelson  
Emmanuel  
Onwunaka  
La-Tasha Randolph

Jordan Thomas  
Michael Thomas  
Najiasia Thomas  
Tajhane Thomas  
Mohammed Waziri  
Iris White

CLASS OF 2014

M  
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Maryum Abdul Hamid



Oluwatoba Adeoti



Asmaa Ahmad



Shaheerah Allen



Isabel Baculumá



Dolores Barraza



Jeffrey Bennett



Fiorella Berrueta



Omer Bhatti



Nicole Binns



Raymond Bizi



Tiana Brooks



Waynon Brown



Malcolm Brownridge



Tatiana Burgess



Crystal Carrion



Aaron Carter



Calvin Chambers



Tiyyanna Chambers



Nathan Chattergoon



Vida Chiri



Louidgi Colin



Khani Copeland



Claudia Costa



Abdullah Crosby



Damilola Dada



Cheryse Damon



Tara Dickens



Tariyana Davis



Jonathan Diaz

2012



Zakiyah Edgehill



Nahshima Edwards



Shantia Edwards



Robert Emmanuel



Iyonah Fard



Keith Foster



Kennedy Frempong



Patrice Gamble



Ashley Garland



Asia Garrett



Marco Gastelo



Nain Grandberry



Sean-Eduard Hammond



Kayla Harvey



Qua' Von Hasan



Kendell Henry



Rasheed Jackson



Samadia Jackson



Shaquana Jenkins



Unique Jenkins



Kairida Jennings



Christian Johnson



Miava Johnson



Muneerah Johnson



Yukiyah Johnson



Henrietta Keazer



N'kayah Kersey



Mericha King



Ibrahim Kone



John Legrier

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Generra Rodriguez



Anthony Santiago



Kimberly Santiago



Alexandra Santos



Sadiq Scott



Yazmin Seabrook



Nasheed Sharp



Manirah Spence



Mariah Sweeney



Brittney Sykes



Brittany Taylor



Emauni Thompson



Taylor Trotman



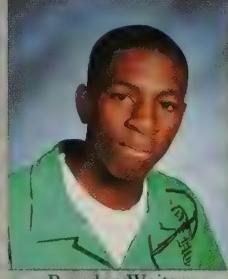
Jeniya Turner



Angel Valentin



Kevin Valentine



Brandon Waiters



Zaniah Wallace



Charles Washington



Sierra Williams



Yakima Willingham



2012

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Tabrikah Abdul Latif



Theresa Adachi



Ty-Shanique Addison



Elizabeth Adekunile



Ibrahim Ahmad



Moriam Amokomowo



Sarah Barnum



Gia Bethea



Jermaine Blue



Marcus Boler



Marc-Anderson Bonhomme



Haleemah Boseman



Danielle Brice



Tahkiya Brown



Xevier Brown



Donya Burgess



Dianna Caban



Christopher Carswell



Jean Clarke



Christina Coats



Gregory Corker



Ariana Council



Tajarae Crawford



Alina Cruz



Donnie Damon



Tiffany Daniels



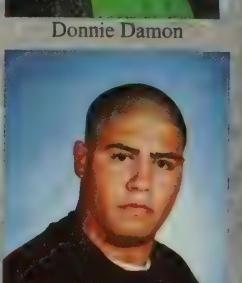
Nailah Dawkins



Fatima Diaby



Jalen Deck



Eliezer Dejesus

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Deja Douglas



Saundra Drayton



Genesis Duran



Jahad Easterling



Kierra Edmunds



Angel Fosuhene



Mina Fouad



Belen Galindo



Essence Gilliard



Sharee Gordon



Raven Green



Alonzo Hamlett



Timothy Hannibal



Kalend Hardy



Nadirah Harrington



Kawan Heathington



Albert Hichez



Matthew Hoffman



Carmeria Hunter



Morris Hunter



Phi Huynh



Ebone Jackson



Glenn Johnson



John Jones-Bracewell



Monique Joseph



Tiarra Joseph



Matthew Knighton



Shagun Kukreja



Julianny Lantigua



Mecca Lyle

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Jarubi Smiley



Devon Smith



Hassanah Smith



Shanice Smith



Denzel Stokes



Amna Tariq



James Turner



Ligia Valera



Moises Vazquez



Jasmine Walker



Amirah White



Chanice Williams



Theressa Williams



Wyleirah Wilson



A'shanti Wingate



Alexis Woodard



Dominique Young

I Think I Can  
I Know I Can

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Amina Abbas



Kazembe Abif



Jarrett Adams



Whitley Alvarado



Raven Anderson



Samirah Andrews



James Barr



Omar Batista



Rakayyah Ben



Cecelia Blamah-Sah



Eugeunia Brandy



Taysha Brinson



Annalisa Brown



Cierra Brown



Michael Brown



Stacey Calderon



Stanley Caldwell



José Carrau



Elgin Carter



Troy Chavers



Tierra Clark



Ahmed Cooper



Nylmah Cox



Tia Crawford



Liana Curry-Desalas



Rashawn Davis



Kareem Dorset



Janiyah Eutsey



Sahid Dorch



Coretta Edwards

2010



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Tajhanee McMillan



Tajhanea McMillan



Azania McMillian



Laurin Mincy



Lauren Morrist



Candace Moses



Anthonette Nelson



Mecca Newton



Derrol Nickels



Oladipup Ologundudu



Katrina Peterson



Hamid Pleasant



Esther Pujols



Hemchan Ramkishun



Malcolm Reavis



Patrice Register



Jantel Reid-Ivy



Kiiera Robinson



Jamalyne Rodgers



Jasmine Rogers



Edward Romero



Latoya Rudd



Whitney Seshie



Cheray Smith



Elijah Smith



Qunisha Statum



Kiyjayah Stocks



Lanira Vauters-Conyers



Eotree Thomas



Keenen Townes



Asyya Venable



Tileya Walker



Lawrence Warner

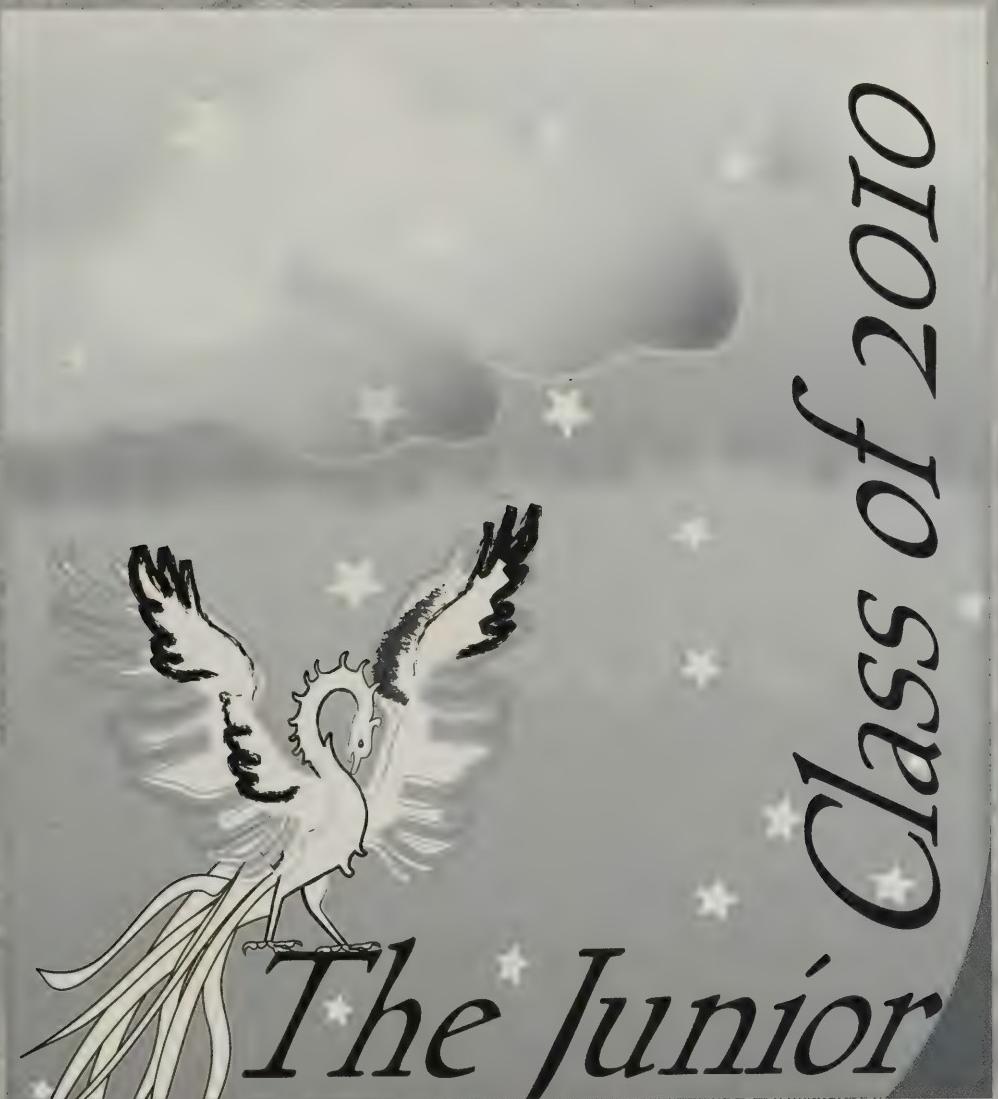


Jihad Williams



Asha Wright

2010



To the star polishers that work  
very hard everyday, to make  
our stars shine...Magum Shine!

By: Roger Leon

# SCHOOL

*Close Up*  
Advisor: Mr. Velazquez



PROVIDING OVER 25 CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

*Rebel 2*  
Advisor: Ms. Benders



*The League*  
Advisor: Ms. Benders



*French Honor Society*  
Advisor: Mr. Julien



*Freshman Class Committee*  
Advisor: Mrs. McNamara



# CLUBS



*Eighth Grade Class*  
*Advisor: Mrs. Melvin- Salaam*  
*and Mrs. Mahon*

## FOR OUR PHOENIX STUDENTS TO ENJOY



*Yearbook Club*  
*Advisor: Ms. Benders*



*Future Nurses Club*  
*Advisor: Dr. Beaumont*



*Rebel*  
*Advisor: Ms. Benders*



*Jazz Band*  
*Advisor: Mr. Corley*

## SCHOOL CLUBS AND



*Math Honor Society  
Advisor: Ms. Siroy*



*Future Attorneys Club  
Advisor: Ms. Lopez*



*Future Educators  
Association  
Advisor: Ms. Gironda*



*Junior Class Officers  
Advisor: Ms. Leotsakas*



*National Honor Society  
Advisor: Mrs. Rosenbaum*

## CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS,



*Pep Squad  
Advisor: Mrs. Melvin-Salaam*



*Science Explorers  
Advisor: Dr. Rahimi*

## ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUED



*Phoenix Shoppe*  
*Advisor: Mrs. Kairu*



*Band Dancers*  
*Advisor: Ms. Sampson*



*Student Leadership*  
*Advisor: Mrs. Howard*



*Phoenix Flame Newspaper  
Club*  
*Advisor: Ms. Leotsakas and  
Mrs. Howard*



*Diamond Girls*  
*Advisor: Mrs. Melvin-Salaam*

## CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, CLUBS, AND MORE CLUBS



*Sophomore Class Committee*  
*Advisor: Ms. Sampson*



*Spanish Honor Society*  
*Advisor: Dr. Manas*

# **GIFTED & TALENTED**

**Congratulations**



We've finally made it to the next level HIGH SCHOOL. This will be a challenging time in your next phase of life, but you will succeed. It has been a wonderful experience for me being your Co-Advisor; I got the opportunity to learn many of you in another asset of your life.

My words to all of you are "Keep It Moving", don't let anything or anyone stop you from achieving the goals you want in life.

**God Bless You All. You know I Love You All**

**Mrs. Linda Melvin-Salaam**

**Congratulations, Eight Graders!**

You're beginning to venture on another journey as you enter into High School next year. Some of you are probably having mixed feelings, but you should also be excited about becoming a freshman next year. Stay focus and take advantage of all that High School has to offer. Enjoy the next four years and strive for As and Bs. Be a Leader and remember to "Pay It Forward".



**Love Forever,**

**Mrs. Alicia Mahon**

# CLASS OF 2009

## Aysia Blake

want to thank my grandma, my family and my brother Marcus. The reason

why I thank my family is because I wouldn't be here without them. I love you grandma and family and Marcus the reason why I tease you is because without them I wouldn't see how crazy people are and how weird a person can

be. I want to thank my teachers for inspiring me and yelling at me so I can become a better student.



## Iricelly Caban

I would like to thank my mother because, she has been a mother and a father to me. I would also like to thank my father for being there even though he has been busy lately. I want to thank my sisters, Dianna and Jannette and my friends, Aysia, Elizabeth, Atneataies and Lauren for supporting me. I also want to thank my teachers, you have helped me improve a lot and you taught me a lot. I am so happy because I had so much support from everyone. I want to congratulate all 8th Graders for graduating, because now we are all one step closer to our careers. I had a lot of fun this year hopefully next year will be the same.



## Fola Sade Corpree

I finally graduated! Eighth grade year has taught me a lot. I'm going to high school and leaving all my childishness behind. I would like to thank Ms.

Dunker, for the last two years she has taught me how to have more respect for my self and gave me some of the basic skills I would need for college. I would also like to thank my family. My sister,

my mother, and father have always pushed me to be the best and sometimes we had altercations but, at the end of the day it was all worth it. As for my other teachers Ms. Tierney, Ms. Gironda, Ms.

Sirov, Ms. Ortiz, and Ms. Febinger I would like to thank you for helping me strive for excellence.



## Shanna King

I give many thanks to my mother, friends and anyone else who has helped me with my great talent. Basketball is my life, and I chase this dream with a passion. I, Shanna Olivia King, have fallen in love, and his name is B-ball. So, I thank my parents, friends, coaches, trainers, and future fans because I have a dream, and it WILL become a reality.



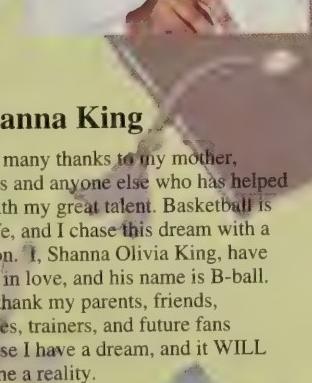
## Awa Camara

I am glad that I'm able to graduate from one of the top schools in Newark. I want to thank my mom for pushing me to stay in this school, because I wanted to leave even though at first she didn't want me to come here because she said that it was a bad neighborhood. Also I would like to thank Ms. Dunker for pushing me to reach my true potential, and never settling for less. I'm glad that I am a part of the UHS family. Even though we had some bad times I am glad to be graduating with this 8th grade class of '09.



## Lauren Hill Beaton

A planted seed nourished by wholesome soil and watered by fresh water. The little seed breaks open and small green stem rises from the ground and appears above the soil. Over time this stem grows a bud, and the bud begins to showing its inner colors still nourishing its petals. In just a short time that bud opens up and blooms showing its beautiful petals. And now I have finally bloomed into a beautiful flower. I thank my family, friends, teachers, and most importantly God for bringing me this far. Aysia, Iricelly, Elizabeth, Atneaties, and Sade I love you guys because you are the best friends a girl can have.



## Kahlel Kirkland

I would just like to say that this year I've learned a lot of things socially and was able to become friendlier with other. I am very happy to be in this school. Thank you to my parents and all my friends.



# GIFTED & TALENTED

## Folajima Lawal

I want to thank anyone in the world who has done something significant. Life is too short. Crack is whack so stay in school. U.H.S. ROCKS.



## Eli McClain

I would like to thank my teachers for helping me excel in the Gifted and Talented Program here at University. Thank you for giving me knowledge that I will keep with me for the rest of my life. You all have shown me that I have to push myself further than any of the past schools that I have enrolled in. University is a great school and it will help me achieve all of my goals that are related to school. In closing thank you to all of my teachers that have taught me in the last two years.  
Part of the real Class of '09!

## Atneataies McLean

I would like to thank all of my teachers for giving me a chance to be taught by you. I really leaned a lot from all of you especially you, Ms. Dunker. You pushed me to show my potential in your class. I would also like to say that I love you and

I want to thank you, mom. You also pushed me to bring out my best in all of my classes. I want to thank Mr. Bey and Ms. Sharpe and Mr. Kaczka for letting me stay here at University High School.

To all my friends, I want to say thanks for showing me that I should do my work in all classes to bring up my grades. I love all of you so much for helping me.



## Nijah McQueen

My only interest to coming to this school was for basketball not the academics but this year and a half I've been here, I've learned a lot and I was challenged to the fullest. Graduating is just the beginning I hope this school will help me pursue what I want to do in the future. I would like to thank my parents for pushing me as well as Mrs. Dunker and my best friend Diamond.



## Marquita Neal

I would just like to thank all of my teachers and guidance counselors for all the help and support during the school year. I would also like to thank my best friends Diamond, Najah, Ornella, Aaliyah, and Shanna for sharing good and bad times and for supporting me. We all shared laughs and just had fun with each other. But now we're all moving up. Most importantly I would like to thank my family and everyone who believed in me. Do good, stay out of trouble. Love all of you. "Class of '09"



## Aaliyah Newsome

My two school years at University High has been a fantastical experience. I got a chance to meet new people and to challenge my brain. When I first came, I thought that passing would be easy like my old school but in actuality I had to work twice as hard. I am able to survive in the high school atmosphere with the help and support of my friend, fellow classmates and Jerome. I am thankful I have teachers that really care about their students education and future.

## Terron Smalls

I'd like to thank my mom, dad, and Ms. Gironda. My mom and dad helped me throughout the entire year. To all my friends out there whos reading this thanks for helping me make it through school. To you Khalil I look nothing like you so stop saying that.



## Maurice Stith



# CLASS OF 2009



**Elizabeth Takyi**

Memory, Image, Music, Metaphor, choices and dreams are all the pulse of life. Memories don't live like people do but I will always remember the day of my graduation. Images are Illusions of my predicted life. Music is a melody so sweet that turns a tear into a smile. Metaphor is like a proverb or lesson to be understood. Choices are like two diverged roads. And last but most importantly, dreams are what you grow up to become. From this time on I will be living the dream because I have learned to choose hope over fear.



**Dante Wade**

I would like to thank my parents; my family and God for helping me reach this milestone. 8th grade year has been full of ups and downs but I finally made it. Good luck to all of my classmates in school! (don't drop out)!! God Bless



**Diamond Williams**

I want to thank my family, friends and teachers for helping me along the way to getting here. I want to especially thank Ms. Dunker for pushing me so hard. And I want to thank Nijah for being such a good friend. My mother for being a great mother, Sade and Marquita for being so funny all these things made my year.



**Ornella Yovo**

I would like to give thanks to the many different people in my life. I would say names but I'm afraid I might forget someone. I like to thank all of my teachers who believed in me and pushed me to be what I am today. I would like to thank my parents for everything they have done for me. I didn't understand them but now I know it was for my own good. As I look back, I know I made mistakes, but that is the point of being human, nobody is perfect. Graduating is preparation for the years ahead. Hopefully, I do well!



BEST DRESSED:



BEST SMILE:



CLASS CLOWN:



MOST FUN TO BE AROUND:



Class Flirt:

# EIGHTH GRADE



MOST LIKELY TO BE ON THE COVER OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED:



BEST PERSONALITY:



MOST LIKELY TO BE PRESIDENT:



MOST FRIENDLY:



MOST UNIQUE:

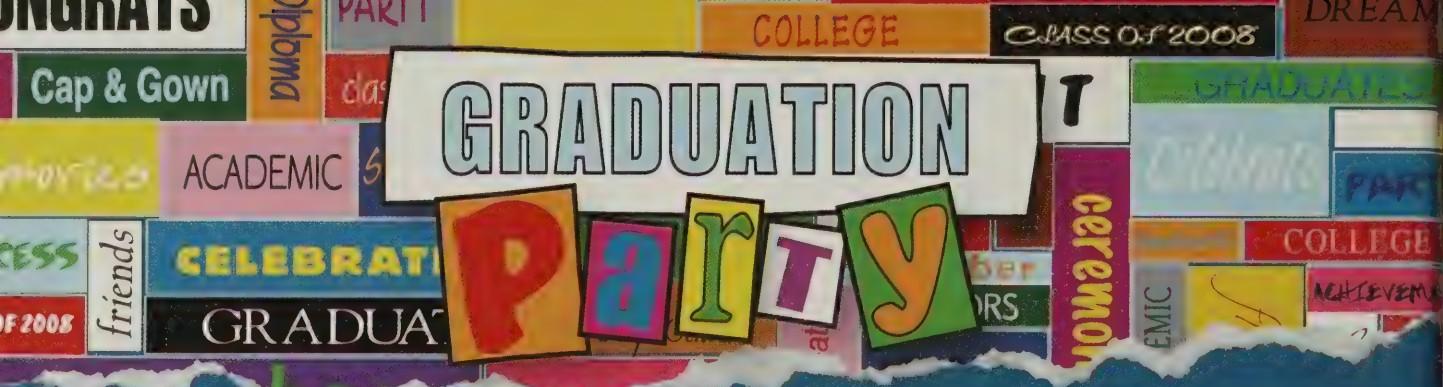


# INTRODUCING



THE DEVINE, AND  
OH SO FINE...

CLASS OF 2009



BEST SMILE

Among the many talents of the University High School Senior Class, there are those who have stood out for their extroverted personalities and traits. Here are just a few categories of those shining stars!



BEST PERSONALITY



CLASS CLOWNS



MOST UNIQUE



LOUDEST



MOST ATHLETIC

# GRADUATION Party

# SENIORS



BEST DRESSED



## BEST SINGERS



MOST ARTISTIC



# BEST RAPPERS



MOST TALKATIVE



CRAZIEST

# GRADUATION Party

Cap & Gown

ACADEMIC

CELEBRATI  
GRADUA

COLLEGE

CLASS OF 2008

DREAM

GRADUATES

Celebrat

PART

COLLEGE

ACHIEVEMENT



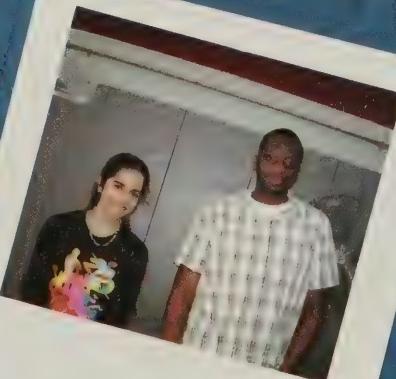
CLUMSIEST



BEST FRIENDS  
BOYS



BEST FRIENDS  
GIRLS



QUIETEST



BEST FRIENDS  
BOY AND GIRL



DRAKING AND QUEEN



BEST HAIR

DONUTS

in Cap & Gown

Movies

success

les of 2008

friends

ACADEMIC

CELEBRATE

GRADUAT

be

PARTY

COLLEGE

CLASS OF 2008

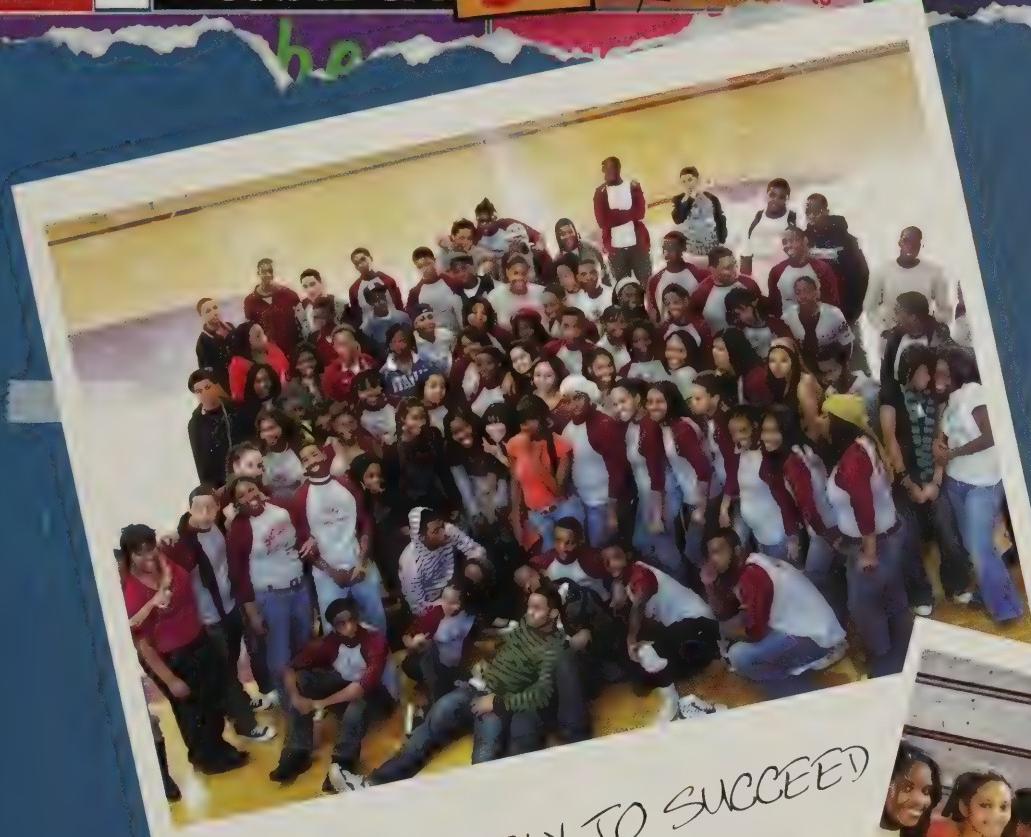
DREAM

GRADUATE

COLLE

ACHIEVE

# GRADUATION PARTY



MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED



Class of 2005



BEST CLIQUE  
BOYS



BEST CLIQUE  
GIRLS

CLASS OF 2008

DREAM

*Why do we go to school, why do we learn various subjects, why do we pass examinations and compete with each other for better grades? What does this so-called education mean, and what is it all about? This is really a very important question, not only for the students, but also for the parents, for the teachers, and for everyone who loves this earth. Why do we go through the struggle to be educated? Is it merely in order to pass some examinations and get a job? Or is it the function of education to prepare us while we are young to understand the whole process of life? Having a job and earning one's livelihood is necessary. But is that all?*

*Are we being educated only for that? Surely, life is not merely a job, an occupation; life is something extraordinarily wide and profound, it is a great mystery, a vast realm in which we function as human beings. If we merely prepare ourselves to earn a livelihood, we shall miss the whole point of life; and to understand life is much more important than merely to prepare for examinations and become very proficient in mathematics, physics, or what you will.*

*Jiddu Krishnamurti, from The Function of Education*

*Take some time to sit back and reflect on life and what you have learned over the years.*

*Good luck to all of you on your journey through the next phase of life!*

*Love,  
Ms. Ruesta, Class of 2009 Advisor*





**Yolanda Aguilera  
Ishmail Ahmad  
Jamiluddin Ahmed  
Latifah Ali  
Sheriza Ali**



**Toni Ann Allen  
Crystal Almonte  
Stacie Alvarez  
Gloria Appiah-Kubi  
Nicholas Armwood**



**Jennifer Baawuah  
Devon Balbosa  
Rachel Bernard  
Sydney Bethea  
Brittany Black**



**Raymond Blanks  
Kwame Boler  
Youssouf Camara  
Dania Carrion  
Wildamie Ceus**



**Mehrissa Childs  
Jarrod Coleman  
Amiynah Conover  
Maisah Conover  
Chanelle Corbin**

# SENIOR CLASS

Malik Covington  
Lanaja Creamer  
Arely Cruz  
Danielle Cullars  
Diamante Culver



# SENIOR CLASS



Zehra Husain  
Iyunadé Jeffrey  
Latifah Johnson  
Oneeka Johnson  
Kiyana Jones

Supreme Jones  
Martin Justice Jr  
Javon King  
Dominique Linton  
As-Sabur Logan

Juan Lorenzo-  
Cordero  
Alexander Maycock  
Matthew McClain  
Chelsea McCord  
Nadirah McKenith

Britt McNeill  
Alim Mohamed  
Hosea Moore  
Christopher Murphy  
Ka-Juan Murray

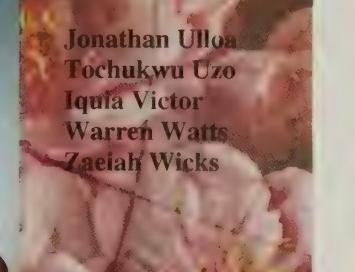
Marcus Neal  
Vanessa Nunez  
Ramos  
Emmanuel Okeke  
Marilyn Onwunaka  
Victoria Parson

OF 2009

**Michelle Peppers  
Jenkel Phillips  
Evan Pierre Noel  
Phoebe Piezema  
Moriah Potts**



# **SENIOR CLASS**



Jonathan Ulloa  
Tochukwu Uzo  
Iquia Victor  
Warren Watts  
Zaeiah Wicks



Jennifer Wilson  
Sarah Colon  
Amir Drakes  
DeVante Howell  
LaShaunda Johnson  
Mariam Tariq



OF 2009

# GUESS



# WHO



# aLRIGHT, aLRIGHT you dONT HAVE TO GUESS aNymore...

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. TONI-ANN   | 1. JOSHUA       |
| 2. ONEEKA     | 2. STACIE       |
| 3. ANDRE      | 3. JELANI       |
| 4. ALNESA     | 4. MARQUIS      |
| 5. LAMONT     | 5. CHANTAL      |
| 6. JENKEL     | 6. IQUA         |
| 7. AFERIDEAN  | 7. ISHMAIL      |
| 8. HOSEA      | 8. NATASHA      |
| 9. NATASSIA   | 9. LANAJA       |
| 10. ANDREA    | 10. JENNIFER    |
| 11. DOMINIQUE | 11. CRYSTAL     |
| 12. AYZSHA    | 12. DANIA       |
| 13. EMANNUEL  | 13. CHELSEA     |
| 14. VICTORIA  | 14. BRIELLE     |
| 15. BRITT     | 15. DANIELLE    |
| 16. AJA       | 16. KIYEMA      |
| 17. BRITTANY  | 17. LATIFAH A   |
| 18. MAISAH    | 18. SAMADA      |
| 19. MATTHEW   | 19. DIAMONTE    |
| 20. MARCUS    | 20. PHOEBE      |
| 21. JAVON     | 21. JENNIFER W  |
| 22. CHANELLE  | 22. SYDNEI      |
| 23. KWAME     | 23. NADIRA      |
| 24. ALEJANDRO | 24. RACHEL      |
| 25. JAMIL     | 25. MEHRIZZA    |
| 26. DEVON     | 26. CHRISTOPHER |
| 27. MORIAH    | 27. YOLANDA     |
| 28. WARREN    | 28. SUPREME     |
| 29. MARILYN   |                 |
| 30. NICHOLAS  |                 |
| 31. JEFFREY   |                 |
| 32. KEYAH     |                 |

## Now We're



all GROWN UP...



# A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Well here we are at the end of our senior year. The time we have been waiting for has finally come. We can officially put the H.S.P.A., The S.A.T., the stressful classes, crazy teachers, and the Drama filled days behind us. We can start over fresh and begin the next chapters of our lives with joy and hope.

But before we do that lets recap the last four years. Beginning with our freshman year, we came in as one of the largest classes to ever grace the halls of UHS. We were smart, bold and plain old crazy. We came from all over Newark to form the best class this school has ever seen. O9! And finally we wore the color. White like no other class will ever do. Sophomore year we declared ourselves the bosses. No longer asking what we could do but telling what we would do. Leon telling us we were in charge did nothing to calm our demanding spirits, and by the end of the year we had decided that we run the show.

During our junior year it was evident that we took being the boss literally. We dominated every activity we were in. We have spent so much time in this building, hours after school, Saturdays, and summers, we could tell anyone who wanted to know every chipped wall, broken desk, and alarmed door that ever existed here.

And then we began our count down. Waiting till high school was all over and done. And as we wave goodbye to all the fun we have had over the years. I must say that it has been an amazing adventure, the fights, the parties, the friends, the laughs, the jokes. They have all been worth it. It has been my pleasure to serve as your class president. Although at times it felt like I was biting nails. After getting to know all of you and forming plenty of special relationships. I think it is important that I tell you I love you guys. You are a special group of people and I wish you all nothing but the best.

Stacie Alvarez

Finally but sadly, high school is all over and done with. I had a lot of memorable moments with my friends in this building. I will never forget freshmen year when we got into trouble faithfully. It was kind of sad how we always got into trouble, but that won't be the only thing I remember about freshman year. I will remember my exboo Samad Harris, he always made me laugh. High school would not be truly memorable without my best friend Malik a.k.a Big Daddy as his groupies call him; and my right hand man/best /fave Tajeya Grandberry. Though we had our bad times they do not over weigh the good times we had together. I will never forget my friends Wildamie Latifah Dania Breanna Chantal, Marquis and Hosea. I love all of yall and I hope we keep in touch. My mom and I may have gone through it a lot but she was always there to wipe my tears. Thank you mommy. Special shout out to my favorite teacher Ms. Evans she is the nicest person in the world. My high school sweet heart /my boyfriend/my fiancé....cj. I love ou pookey thank you for being there for me I appreciate you. Class of 09, we outta here..dueces

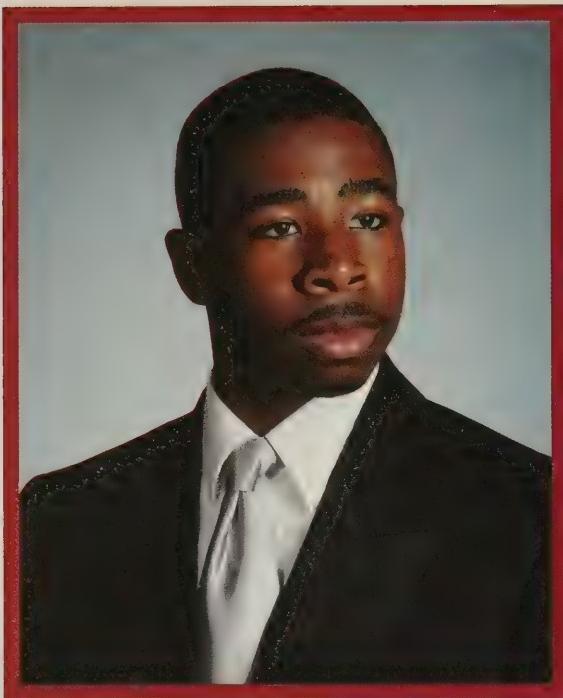


*Danielle Cullars*



*Marquis Frost*

I remember it like it was yesterday....sitting at home filling out the application to attend University High School...then taking the acceptance test. The anxiety to know whether or not I would get in was killing me. Then the day came when I walked home to see my parents with an acceptance letter and then I knew that my life would be changed. These 4 years that I have invested at University have rewarded me with an irreplaceable education which will further my life. I just want to give thanks to my family for supporting me and always being there. Also, I want to thank Malik, Danielle, Tajeya, Martin, Dre, Chris and all my other friends that I have been cool with over the years...without yall I don't know what I would do. We've been waiting for this day for 4 years and now it's finally here....C/O 2009....WE MADE IT!!!



This day has finally come. I am able to say that I am graduating. I would first like to thank God for allowing me the opportunity to see this day. I also want to thank my parents who gave me the extra push to keep me going forward. It truly feels like just yesterday when I came to University, and I'm wondering now where did the time go? There were a lot of good times and a lot of bad times in Uni, but those were the things that made me who I am today. Now for the hard part, I want to say my goodbyes to first the UNI BOIS. Next, to all of the homies under the six, my best friends, Bor and Sydnei. To all my sisters known as the PLASTICKZ, my track family, and all of my brothers who I've gotten in trouble with in and out of school. I know there were times where high school was so boring and I just wanted to stop going but, I am glad to say I made it and I will truly miss these four years. HOOVA!

## *Matthew McClain*

I can't imagine myself anywhere else but here. University High School has given me so much more than an education. It has given me a family. The hardest thing I believe from all of this is to let go. Letting go of my friends, teachers and everything that has happened between 2005 till now. I grew up little by little and used my experiences as a treasure that I will hold on to forever. Nati, Crystal, Josh, Greisha, Oneeka, Gloria, Judith and Marylin are my friends who hold me together when I thought I would lose it. Thanks so much I will never forget our moments.



*Arely Cruz*

2009 is finally here!! Our time has come and I am a star. I want to thank God and my Mami for guiding me in the right path. I have gained and lost my friends in this school, but I would never forget those who were always truest to me. My homie Greisha has been with me through thick and thin. My twin Josh will always be telepathically connected to me lol.

You know I got my lovey dove Crystal and my Chicana Arely. Ms. Benders and Ms. Ruesta have had great words of wisdom and are more than just staff members to me gracias

por todo. A special thanks goes to Neeka who has always stood by my side without a doubt. I got mad love for Phoebe,

Ayzsha, Chantal, Jennifer, Nadira and my fellow Pynk

Panthersz. I am going to miss you all. A lot has gone on throughout the past four years and I value every experience learned. Remember that you should never regret anything that once made you smile. I would like to give a final thanks to

my baby Juan and his sister Marleen for supporting and pushing me to do my best. Now it is time to be on my own two feet and shine. I wish everyone the best of luck and just

to do your own thang. Peace.

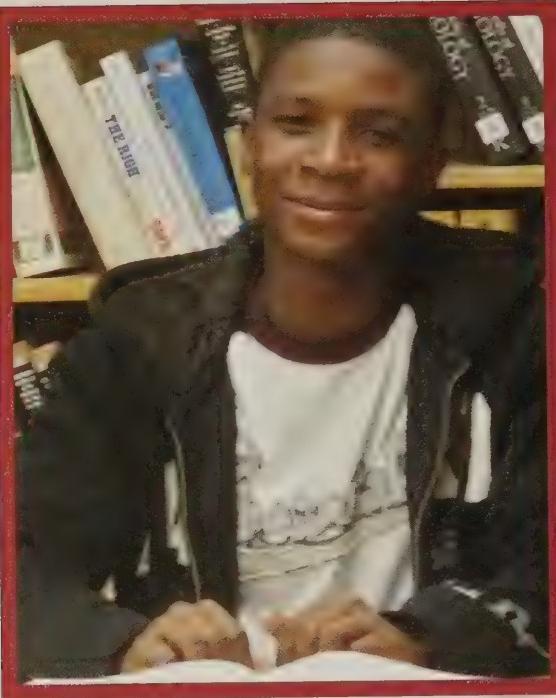


*Natassja Gonzalez*



It's been four years of non-stop craziness and I loved the good and the bad. In those years I started a rap group called Lady Spider and the W.E.B. with Will Murda, Escoladzyah, and Bubbles. We had so much fun together. Then my group who ripped them plastic bags (Plastickz) called Bullet Proof with my bff JUAN. You are the only boy who will always be in my heart love you always. Then there is my friends, we have been together since our freshman year and still seem to like each other. Even though some times I can't stand yall I still love you guys. (Nellie, Breanna, Diana, Wildamie, Malik, Latifah) To my traveling buddies Nati, Ms. Benders, and Nemo it was you guys who kept me going when I really wanted to go home so thank you. Last but not least I would like to thank my Law buds new and old you guys have truly made me turn into the crazy person that I am today. To everyone else I thank you to because you know I like to do it for my haters. PEACE LOVE AND HAPPINESS TO ALL

*Chantal Gaston*



We are a class of academic and athletic excellence, social and political diversity, (but most importantly) a class of personal agency. We are innovators because we are individuals' above to make our own choices and strive for our individual goals. As a class, we are diverse, but as individuals we are equal. As we graduate, the University High School Class of 2009 will spread like a plague over the world years from now, we'll be leaders in our own rights just as we were in high school. We'll excel, surpass and command the modern world to forever remain the class, with class, the only class of 2009.

## *Youssouf Camara*

To my fellow class of 2009, these memories would always be in my heart. I would like to thank all of my fiends that are important to my life; Gina, Jazz, Ritz, Nellz, Venom, and

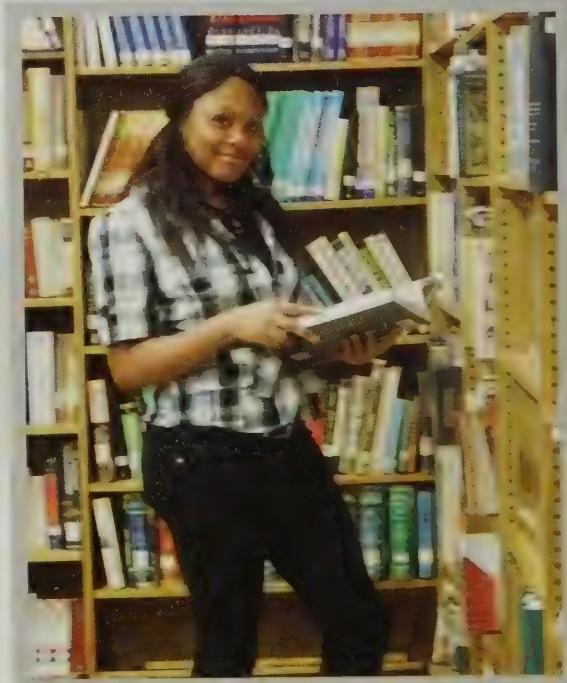
Hosea. Gina, we have always been best friends since freshman year. We had so much in common that we were meant to be best friends. Jazz, my giggle buddy. We always

laughed at anything, when it came to Guzzio or Mr. Cool Guy. Gimme that! He walked in the classroom cool as hell [insider]. Nellz, the one I party with. Ritz, the one I can tell

all my secrets to. You always gave good advice when I needed it. Venom, you are my love, my best friend, and my homie as well. You always have been there for me during times I really needed you. You always kept me warm and

happy with your jokes. Even though your jokes can be mean. I'll always love you. Hosea, I must say, you're All that!! in a friend. I wish my closest friends and the rest of the students of 09 best of luck in the future towards reaching your goals. To all of my teacher, thank you for feeding me knowledge I never knew. Not only you gave me knowledge,

but also I became more dedicated towards achieving my goals. For that, I give my most appreciation. Seniors of 2009, you will be missed but never forgotten!! Love you all!! Keep going hard!



## *Jennifer Wilson*

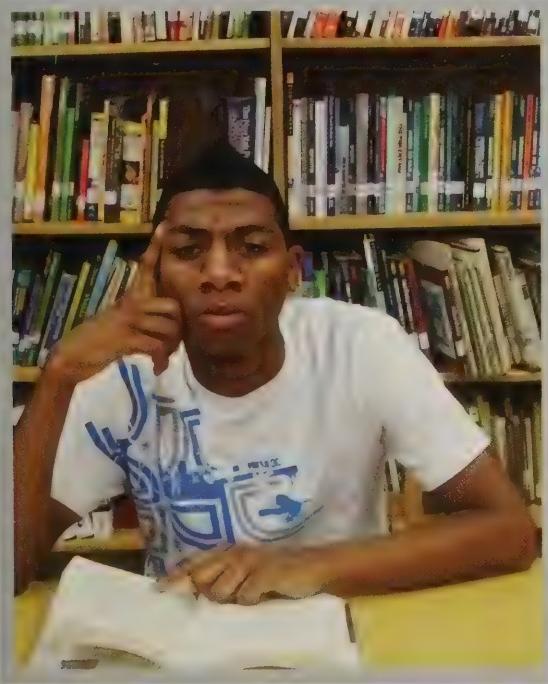
HEY! I just really want to thank everybody who was there for me, and helped me out whenever I needed them. I want to give a shout out to all the staff, friends and peers. I want to say I love my best friend Chelsea and announce that Dome does not have a fluff and Brielle you know who you are. Ms.

T, my homie you know every Friday we battle against each other with the sneakers. Mr. Davis at first you were mean but

now you are my friend. I want to thank you and show my most appreciation and love to Ms. Schelie for being there and helping me with every thing. I just want to say I love you. And give a big shout out to Samada G. Love you Mom. Love you Juan, Jerry, and my sister Vanessa. Bye.

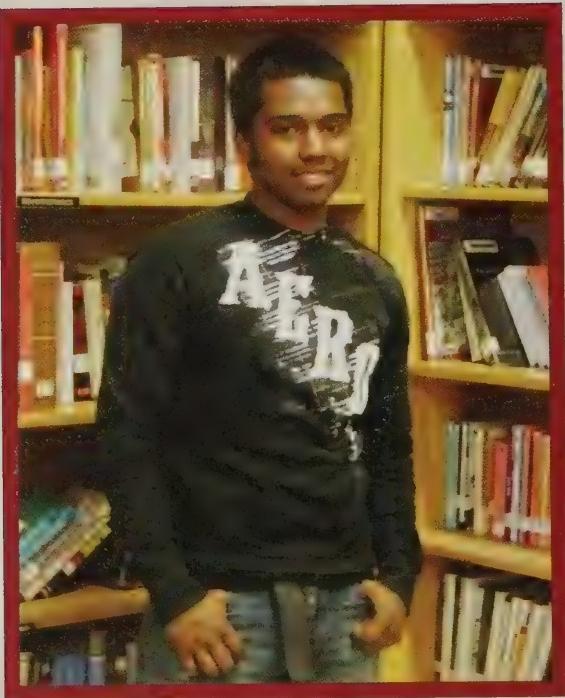


*Kiyema Stocks*



I love University, its sad that its coming to an end. Shout out to the Uni Bois. Get money!

*As-Sabur Logan*



*Alim Mohamed*

Cake! The very reason I chose University over Science. Although I have not received cake for the past year and a half (Why did you have to get promoted Leon?) I decided to stay because University had some really cool people. From teachers to students, staff and even security guards, janitors and cafeteria workers. The one person I will never forget (maybe it's because we're going to the same college) is my buddy Johnny. Youssouf, Alex, Devon, Kwame, Jarrod, Martin, Jamil and Aferidian. And I can't forget my SM Juan (insider) and all the pretty girls in the school that I talk to, and also that one very special girl. Shout out to my pops; the best teacher I ever had and the one person that motivates me to become better than him in the future. Also to the best rapper alive, who swears he's better than me in Math. Still didn't get that 800 on the SAT huh man. Oh and by the way, I'm still waiting for that Mr. 800 song you were suppose to do. And also to that really pretty freshman, I think her name is Nashima. I swear every time she sees me, she points at me and says OMG he's sooo cute!! If I didn't give you a shout out then that meant you were not important enough to come across my mind as I was writing this. Mr. 800 Alim Mohamed Youngest Senior to walk the halls of Uni at only 16.

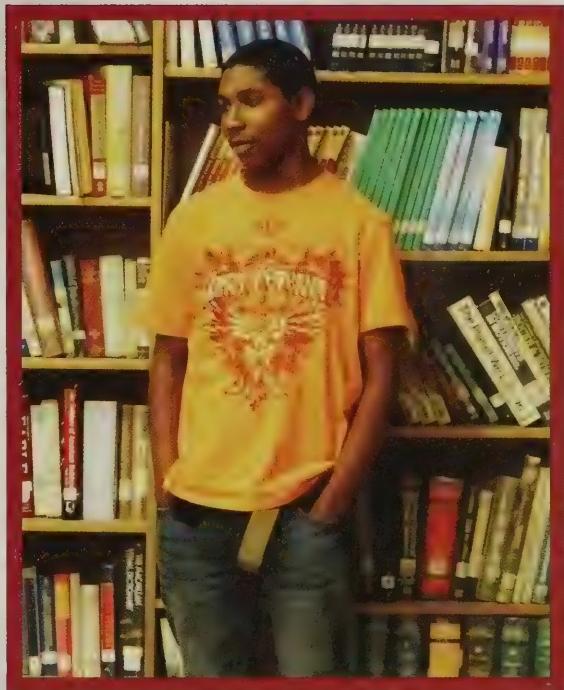
Six long years and it's finally over. "Uni Bois" in the building, swagga on some high-ish ending with a "illion" and I'm out!



*Christopher Raney*

Well...UHS there was some good times and bad times. For the four years I was here, I created many unbreakable bonds with friends and teachers. Shout out to Ms. Graham; one of the best; Grahmy, Mr. Scutari; Neo, Ms. Ortiz, Dr. Manas, Ms. Lockett, Ms. Benders, Ms Osaria. And for my brothas from different mothers; Alex, Alim, Jonathan, Afreridian and Kwame. These bonds have been forged by steel and heat by the Japanese. Now the females Gloria, Maryland and Judith; the Trio, Shariyah, Rachel, Nadira, Stacie and Zehra. Bonds are not easily broken. Farewell University, fix the lunch and good luck after the class of 2009 leaves. Good Riddance.

(ROCK ON!)



*Devon Balbosa*



*Victoria Parson*

My last few years at Uni have been a journey that I would have never taken without the class of 2009. The best class with the most class, we definitely are leaving our mark in the halls of University. To my best, Tiana, we had our problems but in the end you'll always be "My Oreo." The Plastickz, yall are the life of the class. My scoobz Kiyana and Boogie, I love yall lol. My sister, Stacie, we gonna keep in touch. Last but not least, My Tink. We've been through the worst but, we still made it. It's been a year and nine months. I love you. As the class of 09 travels our separate ways, we will always remember the good and bad times. Our class truly is one of a kind. We will be missed.



## Breanna Robinson

A fat binder full of knowledge, but what will I do with it? My experience here at University High School has helped me answer the question. I was taught many things that will help me in the future; a lot about life and what to expect in college. I was honored to have met the many new teachers, friends, and associates I encountered. I will never forget the four years

here with my class, we had good times as well as bad. To all those that thought we never would have made it, WE DID! To those who looked down on us we're now on top for you to look up upon. First and foremost, I would like to give praise where due to Allah, the most merciful. Next of course, I want to not only thank my mommy and daddy but congratulate them that

they have done an excellent job making me the wonderful young woman I am. To my sisters and brothers thanks for the hard times. LOL. Samad I miss you dearly and although you aren't here to share this experience with me I know you are watching over me. Shoutouts to my Tifah, Stace, Jenn, stupid

Ayz, Syd. Bethed, Chant, Ky, Marcus, Neeka, **Day Day:)**, Twin, Ish, Andre, my brotha Dre, my buddy, Meish, and MY LIL SIS. To the staff (Benders, Coach E, Ruesta, Gironda, Evans, Lockett, Lopez, Leon, Melvin, Ms. Pat, Scoot,

Newsome, Tierney, Wilson and I can't forget Cardosa) thanks for these four years of fun and hard work. If I forgot any of my lil underclassmen please forgive me. TO MY CLASS, THE CLASS, WITH CLASS, THE ONLY CLASS OF 2009; WE LIVED UP TO OUR MOTTO AND DARED TO BE DIFFERENT AND IMMA MISS U GUYS. GOODBYE UNI AND NJCU HERE I COME!!!!

My high school years will be a journey to remember. It is through these years that I developed into a mature young woman and found myself. I will leave as a phoenix with my life learned lessons that I will carry on for the rest of my life. Several of lessons I've acquired here include the importance of hard work, humility and humanity. Needless to say, I cannot and will not forget about all the wonderful people I have become friends with at University High. I met people who have left a lasting affect on me and some of these people I know will be in my life for many years to come. Starting from Ishmail, who stole my heart senior year, to my best friend Juan, Wildame, Dania, Jerry, Chantal, Latifah, Malik, Tajeya, Danielle, Siiera, Hosea and a bunch of others. I love you guys and tehre I nothing more I'll miss than going to class with you everyday. To my mom, my aunt Sylvia, my Grandmother, my family as a whole, my teachers, and most importantly God, thanks for always pushing me and believing in me when I didn't even see my own capabilities. I appreciate everything that you have done for me. I know that I'll truly miss it here but with the rest of the class of "09" I must soar above the rest! 'Cause aby I graduated!!!



*Samada Grimes*

My years here at University High School have been truly memorable. For the past four years, I have successfully accomplished the motto of our school, "Pay it Forward." This is among several things I am especially proud of. In addition I had the opportunity of meeting some incredible friends and stuff. My experiences here are ones that will always remain with me as I move on to establish my future.

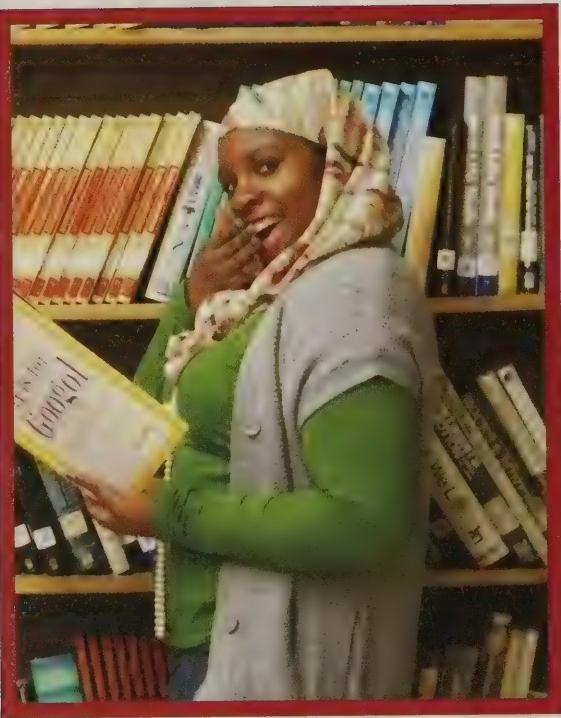


*Gloria Appiah-Kibi*



The one person I will like to thank is my mother, without her I wouldn't be where I'm at today. Although you get on my nerves I know you mean well behind it...I WILL ALWAYS LOVE U..... I can't believe our four years has come to an end. I will always cherish the years I spent at University. At University I grew into the person I am today, well prepared for the world outside of these walls. I gained many friends who will always be there for me. Chanelle, I remember the summer after freshman year at NJIT, we use to go to each others rooms and talk all night although we had class in the morning. Andrea my stickii the summer after sophomore year at NJIT we met through Chanelle, I remember you always made me laugh. During senior year I became closer with Ayzsha, Samada and Jennifer. First period Simmons sitting at the table talking about every and anything under the sun. YA'LL HAVE OFFICIALLY CORRUPTED MY MIND...LOL...last but not least my bestii Yolanda. I remember freshman year first period Brebric we started talking and from then on our relationship grew. You were always there for me. I don't know what I will do without you next year.....YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MII BEST FRIEND...LOVE YOU...CONGRATS TO THE CLASS OF 2009

*Jameisha Thompson*



*Latifah Ali*

Primarily, I thank Allah (God) for such memorable moments at UHS. I also want to thank myself for being real and making the right decisions during this important time of my life. "I dedicate this quote to all the teachers that told me I would always amount to something. It wasn't just a dream...I used to read Seventeen magazine. When Brielle turned 18, we rode up to Rockefeller in a limousine. School days were the best days, used to sip ice teas with Pooch and Mon-ay..." Ever since I walked thru the doors of UHS as a freshman I started a new journey, found my new self and added more chapters 2 my life story. Durin my journey I met people that I can never forget...as 4 my mommy and sis Maya; we've become closer and closer and I thank them 4 the support. My sis Takiyah, bro Shadi and Best Friend Lailah; through long distances u always found the time 4 me. My sisters from another mother, Samada, Naimah, Lamis, Sakinah, n Aaaliyah; I luv my Plastickz, Judies, Homies, Friends, associates and even my high and bye clique; I'll miss u 2, n most important my teachers, mentors and adult figures dat helped me focus. I wish my father was here with me but I live everyday knowing that he would b proud of anything that I do. N with President Obama there is nothin but Hope, Change and Reality... Couture Queen will miss U Guys! PLASTICKZ RULE N ITS ALL GUD! ;-)

WOW!!!!!! I really can't believe that these four years have come and gone so quickly. I'm glad that it's almost over but, will miss all the good times that we had. But hey, we gotta move on and grow up sometime. I want to thank my family. My Uncle and Grandmother. Without my mother and father life wouldn't be the same. Just

want to tell my mother that without all her encouragement and support I would not have made it. So

Thanks. And to my sisters want to tell you that I love you both. My friends are my world and without them my world would be in shambles. Better known as the

Plastickz Cierra, Brittany, Tkeyah, LaShine, Kiyana, Alnesa, Brielle, Maisah, and the FAVs Dominique and Jenkel. Without you guys these years would have been so hard. ILY all and hope for the best. And to my other Uni Friends I love you all Too.. Tajeya Grandballs(LOL),

Danielle, Breanna, my best friend Nick, Warren, Ibn, Samad, Jerry, Juan and the Uni boys. And to my Homie Malik senior year would not have been the same without you.. LUv YA LotS



*Sueria Robinson*

WOW!!!! Its finally ova; I can't believe it. I want to shout out my family and give them thanks for everything they done for me. Thanks Ma for everything you did; I know sometimes I could get on ya nerves; but you still dealt with me; LUV YA

LOTS! My grandparents; Nana and Grandpa; thanks for ALWAYS being there for me when I needed yuh; without yall I wouldn't be who I am today; LUV YALL!! I also want to thank my brothers, Darell and Dante for always being there for me. LUV YUH GUYS! My lil sis MILLIE; I LUV YUH SO MUCH!!! A special thanks to my two wonderful BFFS; Kiyana and Tkeyah. I wouldn't be here without their love n support that they gave me throughout the years. I LUV MY BESTIES!! To Ibn even though we go thru it sumtimes; I still luv yuh and imma always be here for yuh; LUV YUH KJ!!!(LOL). To da rest of my PLASTICK GURLIES:

Cierra(my lil bestie) Brielle(skoob) Jent n Tu(MY FAV A LAVES) Nana (my right hand) Britt(cuzzin) Boogie Maisah and Latifah; LUV MY GIRLIES 4EVA!!! To da rest of my

UNI HEADS: M%dy Amir(shariff) Michelle Noop Frank Nadi Prince UNI BOYZ Dro, Ish, Breanna, Jerry, and JUMP JAYAH. If I forgot about yuh I still luv yuh. DUECES TOO DA CLASS OF 09. WE OUTTA HERE BABI!!!!!!!

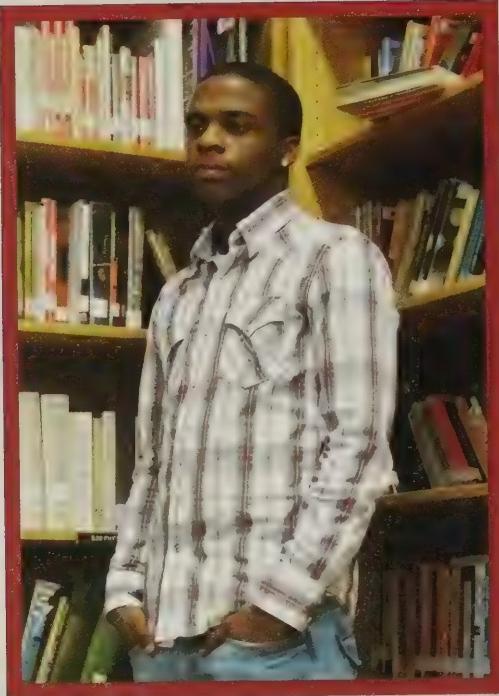


*Dominique Linton*

Where should I start? Even though I should've graduated sophomore year for some strange reason I chose to stay here. (That reason I'm still trying to figure out). But time 4 shout outs. To start off, to my crazy crew of friends; Joe Joe, Meish, Drea, Cha Cha, Rach, Riya, Cranium, Jeff, Phoebez, Neekas and now that I think of it thats pretty much it...it might seem rude but irdc. To Joe Joe: I love u sis and idk how I would've made it through certain situations without u. Nellz-stay the same babez and dont change. Rach- stay away from tea lolz-Phoebez-stop being so clumsy. Now its time to address everyone else. To the people who I was cool with and then changed: Never thought it would've happened but, oh well. Jerry keep dancing and Ish, about time you back after gettin kicked out b4 lol. To the walls of University- you've seen 2many things and made way 2 many memories (freshman year). But the time has come for every good thing to come to an end. So class of 09'- see yall @ the reunion. Signed NJ2 Poetic Justice \*DUCEZ\*



*Diamonte Culver*



## *Nicholas Armwood*

"Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." This quotation exemplifies my frame of mind: I'm no longer afraid of what to expect from University High, but afraid of having to leave this world for another. I'd like to thank all

the teachers and individuals that have contributed to my academic success. A special thank you, Ms. Lopez, you've made success possible for me...you're the best mentor, job-finder, attorney ever!!! Phoebe(Pheebez), I don't know how we began talking, but now we never stop

talking...Chanelle(Cha-Cha), you've been my laughing buddy since last year, even with all of the jokes of the day

that we have, I wouldn't give you baby socks, with your triangle form. Diamante(Bipolar), you're my left hand man and even though we did not start off on the right foot.

Andrea(Sticky, Silly, Jarred-loving, African); I love the fact that you're quiet, corky and a little weird. Last but not least, there's Jameisha(Meish), my right hand bestest. Even though you're rude, abusive to others, and mean, I love you bestest. To you all, my best friends: "Remember me and smile, for it's better to forget than remember me cry." To

Class of 2009:

"May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields...May God hold you in the hollow of his hand."

Wow the last four years went by quick. I've enjoyed my stay at University High School. My favorite year was my freshmen year because of all the fun students that were here. Although, many of my classmates transferred through the years, class of 09 has also gained new friends. Uni Bois in the building swagger on sum highish endin wit a illion. I leave all da stain 2 Uni Boi Chubbz and a lil 2 Biscuit. Favorite teacher Ms. Tierney. Favorite Principal Leon. Thanks for all the love and respect and I'm out.



*Yolanda Aguilera*

HIGH SCHOOL IS FINALLY OVER...OMG!!! These past couple of years has been memorable and I won't forget them. High school would not have been easy without the people I love the most. Thanks Ma for always being there when I needed u and never giving up on me even when times were hard. Love you sooo much!!! To my lil sis Jade, what can't I say about u...lol, but I love you soo much and thanks for always keeping a smile on my face. Hey Daddy, thanks 4 everything. Nyshier thanks for sticking with me through my hard times, u let me know when I'm wrong even if I don't want to hear it. U are the greatest boyfriend ever and I LOVE YOU...MUCH. To all my PLASTICKZ GURLIES: Sista(T'Keyah), TU(Siiera), Cousin(DOM), JENT(JENKEL), MAISAH, BOOGIE,(ALNESHA), KI(KIYANA), TWIN(TANYSHWIA), LATIFAH. To may FAV(CIERRA), thanks for always listening to my drama, cuz I always have a story...lol, but I love you and good luck with lil jr. Last but not least Brielle I went through soo much with u but yet we're still best friends. Brielle I love you like my sister and I look up to u because u are a strong person, Ms. Dee would be proud!!!! Love yall Plastickz for 4life!!! Ibn(fav cousin) luv you!! Michelle, Nadira, Prince(brother), Samad, Atiyah, Nick As-Sabur, Warren, Jerry, Juan(imma miss u)... IMA MISS YALL!!! To the rest of my family and friends thanks 4 everything....CLASS OF 09!!!!Lata!!!



*Brittany Black*



*Toni-Ann Allen*

As the months fly away I am very sad that I am officially leaving University High School. Class of '09 its finally our year..yay us! My years at the "Big U" were a blast. For the last 4 years of my life, Uni has become my NICHE. Therefore, I know I can never find another place like Uni. Uni has instilled within me the best high school experience ever. To my girls: Samada, Neeka, Ayzsha, Jenny B., Mee-Mee, Stacie, Quia, Zehra, and the best of my hoodlums I'm going to miss you guys. Our lunch table was always jumping. To my three mothers: Mommy Benders, Mommy Pat, and Momma Melvin thanks for always being there. I will definitely miss your words of comfort. To Ms. Locket, I am always bothering you, I know you're glad you're getting rid of me!! To "tall guy Scutari", T-Dog, and my Suzie Q, these are the three coolest most down to earth teachers ever. I will miss you guys. To coach Fee and the rest of my Lady Phoenix basketball girls, I am really going to miss playing with you guys. Let's keep building our program or must I say "Empire" Coach Fee, Coach Mincy, and Coach SA, thanx for every opportunity that you have ever placed in my hands. No matter where I may end up or how far I may be, I will always bleed maroon and grey!!



School is finally done and we're finally out!!! But there were some good memories made here. From fights against one another to fights against other schools...lol Chilli days skip days, and let's not forget those fat days. But ima really miss the close ones to my heart. My skinni Devil, Buddi, Zererz, Devil, Ish Exerz, NayNay, Mexican, Jenn, Panda Twin, alumni, the class president Stacie aka NewNew, and my Fav even though he doesn't go here. These guys have been there for all my problems and drama. My good days, my bad days, and all in between. I don't know what I would do without them. College is the next step in our lives and we're ready to take on the world. Ignore whoever gets in your way and doesn't want you to succeed in life. If they have a problem with what you do and what you are about, tell them what I tell yall, first ask "Is that how you really feel?!?!" then hit them with a "DATS LYFE!!!!" and keep it moving.

## *Iquia Victor*

OMG four years of late nights working on papers, severely random moments I had in class, and ounces of laughter I've shared with friends and associates. Mommy I love you and I'll always be your Freddi Babii. Keish, Keiona and Tariq, you guys are the greatest siblings ever. Buddy (AJA) you're my home fry from another skillet and although you are so ambivalent towards most things I address ...I still picture you drunk with a lamp shade on your head lol (I think you get the point). Orlandito you're the best PANDA. To all the Cliques (Plastickz, Uni Bois, A-Team, GeekSquad...Blah blah blah) even though it might seem odd to you all that I'm saying this... you all made me laugh a lot. Ish, Tash, Michelle (imma miss Bleah class esp.) Okeke, Bubbles (Andrea), Coco (Chanel, I got no strings on me) and Devon B(you and your random dancing) and those who I greeted you with randomly rude remarks lol (its all love) you know who you are. Sable, Carlos, Elijah, Asha, Tasha D./Wifey (Asmaa), Hemp, Joey, Malcolm, Alina, Jose, Mike Brandon, and Denzel I love yall sexy people lol. To all my mentors and school moms (Mrs. Rosie, Mrs. Lopez, Ms. Leo, Pitty-Pat, Daisy) who stayed on my case, it gave me skin of leather, and words cannot express how thankful I am for your **Patience**. To Ms. Schiele, Mr. Davis, Dr. Manas, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Bleah: Thank you for everything. Class Of '09... There is nothing left to say except we left our mark.



## *Moriah Potts*

So where can I start? Well high school has been an ok experience. I wish I can start over but I can't. There's been so many memories that I will carry throughout my life because of the knowledge and respect I've gained from many individuals such as my friends and teachers. Yes, high school was difficult, but with the support of my good friends, I was able to accomplish one of the many goals on my list. Breanna, Chantal and Gordi Wiggles (Dania) allowed me to establish a friendship with them that I know will last for years. I can't expound on how much I care for them and how they impacted my life in and outside of school. To my brother's from another mother Jerry, Ish, and Bur. There's a lot to say but we been through trouble and we kept walking. Not only trouble but we definitely helped each other when it was needed, O.K. so I can't forget some of my teachers such as Ms. Ortiz, Mr. Davis, Ms. Roji, Ms. Benders, and Ms. DeVaughn. These teachers have impacted my life, which is why I will take some of their knowledge to pursue my college degrees. I can't forget about the Lunch Crew (my baby) Vanessa, Boogie, Brittany, Brielle, Maisah and everyone else. I made it and the Class of 2009 did too.



*Juan Lorenzo*



*Ayzsha Dodson*

First and foremost I have to give thanks to God, my mommy (who is my closest truest friend). Thanks for molding me into the young lady I am today), my daddy (who loves me even when I'm dead wrong and has open ears and a word of wisdom when life is vague, I'll always be your little girl), and my entire family (each and everyone of you crazy people.) Next, I'd like to thank Leon for holding me back from going to Science..Only to later get skinny and abandon me, I really appreciate it (not!). Finally, I have to give kudos to all the Uni heads that survived 7th and 8th grade and stuck around through High School, you guys are truly the meaning of "the phoenix flame" and I wish you all good luck in the coming years. To Pimp-mama, M&M, Riyah, Zaebae, Nadi-doti, Neeka, Hershey-kiss, Nati Crizzie, New-New, My Pynk Panthers family, My Royal Princesses sisters and my "rap group" Lady Spider and the W.E.B. I love all you guys! A special thanks goes to Griesha (tissue) and Joshie for standing me up at the movies the summer of 2007 (insider), it was totally worth it. Thanks so much for putting up with my random ditziness, constant giggling and demonic nature, you guys truly made my high school experience worth all the ups and downs. Good luck to the senior class, I wish you all well!



*Zaeiah Wicks*

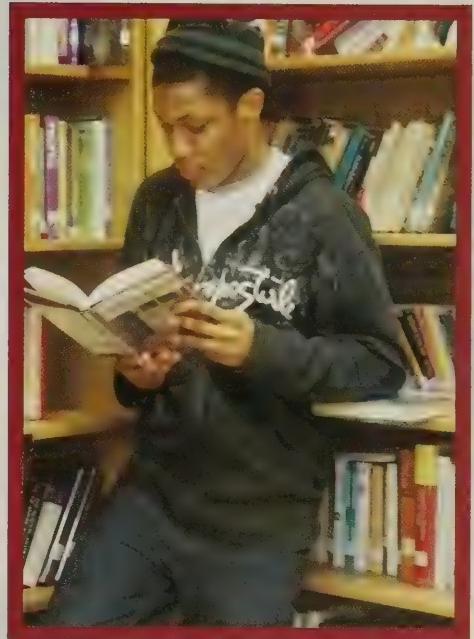
Dare To Be Different was the motto for this years senior class. We had definitely lived up to that motto. We, as graduating seniors, have set a high standard, one I think no other class can surpass. Since 7th grade I have walked these halls of big Uni and I have never heard of a class much like ours. Special thanks to my Mom, brother, aunts, uncles and cousins. Shout outs go to " My best friend Rachel: College won't be the same without you. Since 2nd Grade we've been in the same schools. We've changed a lot and sort of separated ways but you'll always be my best friend. To Shariyah, Ayzsha, Jennifer, Marcus and Aff: We met in the 7th grade and we've been inseparable since. You all are my brothers and sisters and I love each and everyone of you. To Nadira Britt, Jameisha Oneeka, Phoebe, and Zehra: Freshman year we all met and we're still amazingly close. You're all my homies and I have so much love for you. My HIMI's crew: Tash, Aja, Mina, Toni: 1st period in Rahimi's class would have killed me but we have so much fun with Toni's singing and our crazy Monday morning stories. To my hubby Kaz: you've made my senior year just a little bit easier and I love you so much (020508). To my younger friends Shanique, Raven, Monique Sharee, and Hassanah, you will be missed. Class of 2009 has defintley gone down in history.

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal..." These last two years I've been at University have been long and fun. From the day I transferred into this school from Arts my life changed. The environment was completely different but, I adjusted really quickly and you guys helped me make myself a home away from home. I made so many new friendships and bonds with everyone. I'll never forget Mrs. DeVaughn, Mr. Guzzio or Mrs. Louiseau's wild classes. Shout outs to My Sis Asia, My Bff Brielle, Lee, Sammy, Yaz, My Mada, Hannah, Rudy, Kiyjayh (my jigga), Stacie (my mommy away from home), Auntie Ayzsha, Phoebe, Rachel, Theress (mi amor), Kairida, Kiyema, Faith, Matt, Marcus, Jerry, Bor, Mont, Chris, Kris, and the rest of the Uni Bois. My favorite teachers Scut, Mrs. Vertreese, Rubio, Khalil and Kairu. Of course I won't ever forget my mentor, Rosie or the craziest Mr. Husain, Cardosa, and Kazcka. A big thanks to everyone who kept me focused and especially to my Lord and saviour Jesus Christ, who guided and allowed me to progress so far. I have so many unforgettable memories. Glad high school is over but I know there's so much more to come. "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Time to put the next foot forward guys...



*Sydnei Bethea*

This be your boy Emmanuel Okeke a.k.a Venom. To all of my beloved friends and teachers, these past four years at University High have been the best moments of my life. Dance is what I do at Uni. I learned so much while attending this learning war zone on how to prepare myself for the real world. I experienced the good, the bad, and the ugly. During the years I came to have many friends in the process. My dearest friends would be Jennifer W., Jameisha, Kiyema, Jasmine, Sheriza, Natasha D., Andrea and Aminyah. I love these girls so much in different ways. They help me out through thick and thin, and I will cherish every moment with them. I also wanted to show love to the Uni Bois. We are the best crew in University because we got too much respect. I am so grateful to be taught by some of the best teachers at Uni because they granted me the knowledge to make it through for college at NJCU in fall '09. My favorite teachers were Ms. DeVaughn, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Bleah, and Mr. Cardoso. These few made me want to learn more in their classes. I am so grateful to be in the class of 2009 because after us there is no more. We are officially the end of an era. Class of 2009 the best of the rest. I love you all and I will miss University forever.



*Emmanuel Okeke*



Thinking back on my four years at University High School, the things that I remember the most is the school work. As a freshman, I was a little afraid because I wasn't sure if I would be able to keep up with my school work and get good grades as I did in middle school. University is one of the best academic schools in Newark, and they hold us to such high standards to prepare us for college. As my high school years continued, I started to realize the concept of how to achieve academic success; by asking questions, going to teachers for extra help, and studying. The school motto is "pay it forward," and that is what I hope to do in the near future, extending my help to someone who may then help someone else. Thus, this cycle of helping people keeps on occurring. I would like to thank all my teachers who were there for me and prepared me for that next step to a degree of higher learning.

*Felani Saleem*



*Chanelle Corbin*

"You can pay for school but you can't buy THE CLASS, NO ONE on the corner GOT SWAGGA LIKE US." That song definitely goes out to the Class of 2009. CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to all. I will be the first to admit that summing up our four years together can not fit into this blurb! I'll start with Hosway! Some of my best memories of us are from junior year in Rojy's class, right wiggles? SMASH! Regina, my other mother, my best, Ms. Pretty accent with the frequent mood swings and a donk in "those" jeans. I LOVE YOU! C. Swirl, that's my niece, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, that's my cafeteria right there! Remember when Deon...lol. J Dub...A YO LET ME GET THE CHICKEN PARMESAN. Remember our D-Mac dance? Sheriza, my slow buddy. YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU! Meisha. My Judy with the 4th floor status...or was it the third at NJIT? I'm so glad I met you ERMON! DREAAAAAAA!!!! You are sooo funny, I am going to miss you with your JUMP-ROPE and you're....fat....NECK! Remember Mr. Guzzio and Dr. Rahimi's class? And Jarrett? The BEST! Joe-Joe, there is so much I can say to you. Are you my pretty peasant with the razor bumps, baby socks, and trench coat....the question is rhetorical. Moriah you already know we stand out, eye to eye, on the open road like A Goofy Movie. Diamante, I'll miss stand and delivering with you! And Sarah...MY LAZY GYM BUDDY. I LOVE YOU LOSERSZ! Love, Cha Cha

The years I have spent in high school have been very memorable. While there have been good times, there have also been very bad ones. I know most people are using this as an opportunity to thank and recognize all the friends and family they have, but that is not what I am going to do. If I have learned anything during this time is that I am the most important person in my life and that I do not truly have friends; I have associates. No one knows, understands, or even cares about the struggles I face on a regular basis except me. I have thought in the past that I had real friends, but I came to realize that people always put your feelings, wants, and needs behind their own; something I do the complete opposite of when I consider someone to be my friend. People display their true colors when they are presented in a situation that requires them to actually show how much they claim to care. I am not in any way saying that I have not met any good people in my high school experience; I have one person that I would say came closer to the friend title, Lanaja. We've had our rough patches but we continue to remain close and confide in one another when times get hard. I do not want to sound cliche, but I do not regret any thing I have done in the past because it helped me to become the person I am now. I do not wish to be remembered as the most liked or the most popular, but as an individual, someone who could care less about what others think about her, and I think I have accomplished just that.



*Mehriissa Childs*

Andrea Fosuhene here, hmm..what to say? When I received my acceptance letter from University, I was happily rolling on the floor with Gloria. I won't forget how overwhelmed I was being admitted into a school I knew so little about. I was even concerned about getting lost on my way to school....but life goes on. Freshman year...a blur but I do remember the rap-group I was in. Yup! It's called the WEB, starring Bubbles (Me), Escladasia (Ayzsha), Wil-Murda (Wildamie, I gave her that name!!!) and Lay Web who spins the records (Chantal). Still, I want to greatly thank Moriah for being my very first friend. While all Mount Vernon heads made new friends, I was the last left. Thanks Moriah! Sophomore year, I was boasting in everything! Plus the sweet sixteens...AWESOME!! Junior year, a bit sucky. Finally senior year, despising it, but hey! In all, shout outs to Yoli-Chubby, Chanelle, Cha-Cha, and Aja, Uuj. My people. Chubby, my funny saucy buddy, Meish, the girl I was scared, ut who became my close friend, Cha-Cha, made me brownies nd Uuj, my tough buddy. Shout outs to Lani, Okeke, and Big Boss Raymond. Jelani, always making me laugh, Okeke...well you know we go waaaaay back. Big Boss, we've come a long way..my best friend, my right hand man. Your intellect, simply astounding and amusing. Last but not least my main man Jarrett. Good luck sir. No matter what they say, you're the coolest Junior I've ever met! Peace, Love, and Prosperity to all...May God watch over you...Get that YUM-YUM!!!

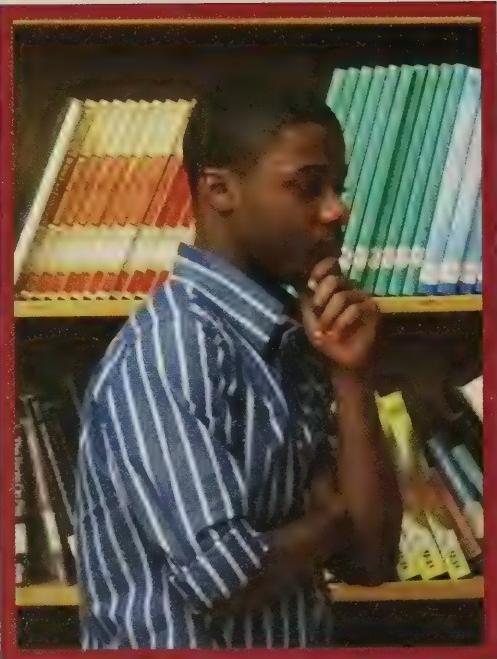


*Andrea Fosuhene*



*Crystal Almonte*

University High School has been like a second home for me. My experiences in school have been more than memorable. I have been lucky to cross paths with great teachers like Ms. Rosenbaum, Ms. Ruesta, and Ms. Leo. I definitely would not have been able to survive my 4 years at school without my best friends Josh, Natassja, and Arely, or without the support of my sisters, Ayzsha, and Stacie. I would have never got to the top 25 without being able to copy from Marilyn and Gloria. And I will always remember Phoebe, Oneeka, Britt, and Chantal for making me laugh. Special thanks also go to the senior class committee for all their hard work; it was an honor to be your vice-president. I have to admit, I am scared to move on-but anxious to see what my future await. Good luck to the whole senior class, I wish you guys the best!



*Jerry Holley*

Before I enrolled at University High, the constant talk of the workload and strenuous days of work had me question whether this school was for me, but, with the possibility of gaining a valuable education, I enrolled. My father allowed me to pursue my dreams and live my life, without sever scrutiny; and that is something I will cherish every day for the rest of my life. After gaining the educational, social, and communication skills that I attained; it is evident that I made the correct choice. I would like to thank the entire school staff especially; Ms. Devaughn, Mr. Scutari, and Ms. Tierney for bringing a smile to my face and allowing me to gain the knowledge to be certified and qualified for the future position I plan to attain. I would also like to take pride in thanking my friends: Juan, Dania, Breanna, Hosea, As-Sabur, Nick, Prince, T'Leyah, Kiyjayh, Jasmine, Nae, Nea, Syd, Theress, Asia and the Plastickz. They all helped me gain the concept of life because we all had scuffles, but we managed to stick together. That helped me gain a characteristic necessary for life which is endurance. The concept of adjusting to a new environment could be difficult, especially the college atmosphere. At University High, I received the preparation to tackle such an environment, and have become adamant about my chances of becoming a contributor to the world. I am grateful for everything University High has done for me, and I have no regrets. Thanks for everything!!!! LET'S GO CLASS OF '09.

"You can't choose your family, but you can choose your friends."

I enjoyed my first and last year at University. I met a lot of good friends, you already know, shout outs to the UNI

BOIS, my Bra Skeet, my son young Kris, my bra Nick, my bra Bor, my bra Spence, my bra Preme, my mans Ish, funniest man alive. My favorite teacher, Mr. Hood, that's

my mans right there. Even though I was the new dude, you know I got my stain up real quick. Uni Bois running this in here. Know that, 09! Last but definitely not least, I would like to shout out mother, who I love to death, my

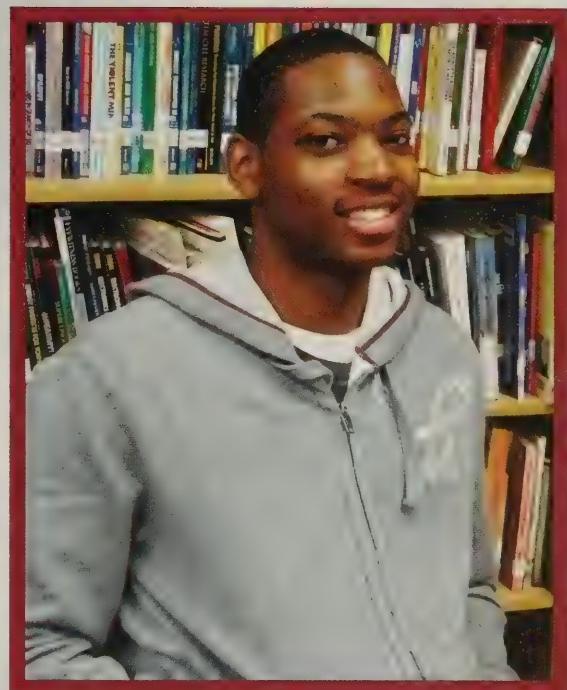
father, who was always there for me, my grandmother who taught me so much, my grandfather who I idolize for real and myself who put it all together. I'm going to miss the Uni Life. Be safe Toms Prod(TM).



*Lamont House*

It's about time! I'm finally outta this place. These four years have been the best and the worst and through the good and the bad, I wouldn't change it for the world. First of all I want to thank my sister, miss mellow yellow. You've been my inspiration and though we fuss and fight, I love you to death. I also want to give a special thanks to my mother.

Thank you for all the love, commitment and encouragement you've given me, no matter what, you will always be nearest to my heart. High School would not have been what it was without da main homies: My best Danielle, my right hand tut dat, da homie Tajeya, Booda, Nafis , D-mac, Breanna, Wildamie and Dania. Though we will be going our seperate ways, I want all of yall to know I'll always have love for yall. Shout outs to Latifah, Chantal, Maisah, Brielle, Jerry and Kiyema. It's been real!

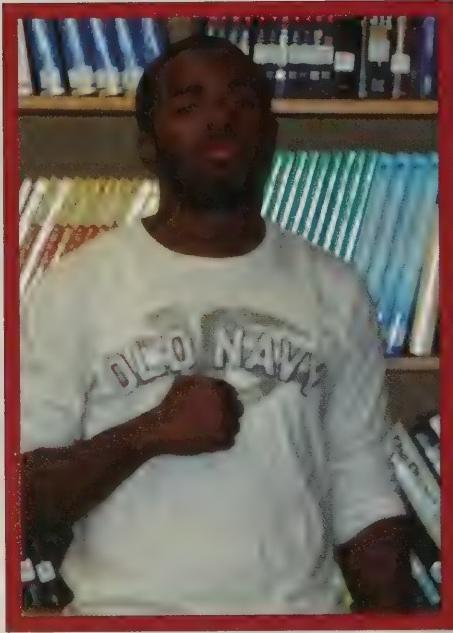


*Malik Covington*



I never cared much for the monotony and mediocrity of high school. It was just another burden for me to bear, another hurdle to jump, another piece of furniture in the living room to stub my toe on (that was a joke/ metaphor you probably won't get). But even though the classes were too long, the homework too much, and the days too routine, I think I just might miss U.H.S and how close-knit things felt there. (Okay I'm kind of lying. I won't miss the school much. I just said that to avoid scrutiny.) Honestly, high school wasn't the best time of my life; there is much better yet to come. But, there were a couple of people that made the time I spent at U. H. S worthwhile, including Breanna, I adore you. You are the closest friend I have ever had and I hope to never lose you. Also, Ayzsha, Chantal, Dania, Malik, Danielle, Jennifer B., Latifah, Tajeyah, Britt. There are more of course but I'm doing this thing on my phone and at this point it feels like my thumbs are falling off. All of you are awesome and I wish you all happiness and good fortune. Rock steady and God bless.

*Wildamie Ceus*



*Ishmael Ahmed*

Well first and foremost I want to give a shoutout to those who threw glass on my runway as I walked, I love all of you adults. But now in other news, although I have been a phoenix for two years I feel like I have been one for life. These have been the craziest most inspiring years of my life (so far), that shape my future. I wanna thank my mother for sticking with me, all of my brothers and sisters, Bre, Ally-boon, Ki, Nessa, Boogie, Dre, Mi, Chelse, Mat, The Plastickz (yall the craziest women I know, much luv) The Uni Bois. (I love all yall, dream big!) And everyone I may have forgotten I love class of 09 4 lyfe and to the young people. Stay out of the hallway!

These past four years at University High School have been challenging, exciting and rewarding. I would like to give enormous thanks to the following people who have contributed to my success as a knowledgeable student: my family, every single teacher that assist me, and to all of my friends (Nellz, Jenn, Gina, Jazz, Sarah, the one and only Venom, and to my under classmate buddies). My

time spent at UHS has prepared me to face any challenges I may encounter in my future. To all my FG if you can't go through the front door, go through the back. To the class of 09, always believe in yourself and keep in mind no goals are impossible to achieve. Stay safe, strong, and faithful. Your girl Reeza.



*Sheriza Ali*

First and Foremost I want to give thanks and honor to God. I prasie him for the plan he has for my life and how he continues to protect me. I also want to say thank you to both of my families, for your love and support. I love you guys. To all of the teachers and staff who have supported me thank you especially Grammy, Ms. Devaughn and Ms. Lopez. To my girls Zehra, Samada, Jennifer, Oneeka, Iquia, Sydnei and

Ayzsha you have made my high school an awesome experience and I will miss you dearly. To my friends and executive members Crystal, Kwame, and Britt thank you for your support, you have really helped make this year great. To

my advisor Mrs. Ruesta thank you for your dedication, commitment and your love for our class. To all of my seniors these have been an amazing 4 years. I can't imagine high school without each one of you. The stories we share, the time we have spent together will forever be in my memory. I really want to see all of you go out and be whoever it is you want to be. I love you all and can't wait to see you in 10 years.



*Stacie Alvarez*



*Alejandro Hidalgo*

During my 6 years at University I learned a lot about how difficult life could be without a proper education. I took that in to consideration and applied myself trying to do the best I could in all my classes. It wasn't an easy task but I always tried to go past my limits and at the end of the day I'm happy with my accomplishments. However, I couldn't have done any of this without the help of my teachers and peers. I would like to just say thanks to all those who tried to direct me in the right path to do good and pushed me to stay there. My ex-principal Mr. Leon he always looked after me while he was here and looked out whenever I need some help. Ms. Sharpe, who I gave a lot of headaches too but still believes in me and wants me to do right in life, I thank you. Dr. Manas my favorite spanish teacher who always was there for me during my 3 years in her class. My friends that helped me with my work and told me to do good; Jamil, Shariyah, Yousuff, Jenniffer, Natasha. Before, I say goodbye to everyone I want to give a shout out to my homi Ish, Warren, Spencer, Shareef! (Amir), Ki, Boogie, Tiana, Vannessa, Michelle, both Dre's, both Chris's, Jerry, Marcus, Quia, Lanaja, Kiyema, Chelsea, Nadira, Dom, T'Keyah, Okeke, Lanie, Ray, Yolanda, Jazz, Pheobe, Toni, Samada, Oneeka, Lashonda, and anybody else that held me down during high school.



These past four years have gone by sooooooo fast!! I can remember freshman year like it was yesterday. High school wouldn't have been easy without my family; Brian and Daddy. To all of my aunts, especially my Aunt Sunny, thanks for being there when I needed you the most. Mommy, I miss you dearly and it has been hard facing these past 2 years without you, but I know that you are watching over me, that's why I have made it and me going to college has made u proud. I love my PLASTICK girlies (Dominique, Maisah, Siiera, Jenkel, T'Keyah, Cierra, Na Na, Kiyana and Latifah). I'm going to miss all of yall...4 years and nothing broke us. To my BFF Brittany, we have been through a lot and I can't imagine going through my experiences with anybody else. My goodbyes go to others that I have remained close to during my high school years; Prince, Nick, Warren, Tajeyah, Malik, Michelle, Victoria, Jerry, As-abur & Juan.

## *Brielle Smith*

Although these four years have not been the best I have made the best of it. Without my dear friends and mentors I would not have made it through high school. First of all

I want to thank Mrs. Lopez for finding me respectable jobs to do. And Mr. Scutari my best mentor, you are the best mentor I've had up to date, you've taken a lot of crap

from me but at the same time it's been fun. To all my closest friends I love you guys greatly and will miss you dearly. IF WE DONT KEEP IN TOUCH I BETTER NOT FIND YOU IN THE FAR FUTURE. OMG I can't

believe after six years of walking up and down these hallways, I'm finally going to take that final walk down the aisle to my future. Thank you to all the people in the

phoenix family, thank you for making my years in University reasonable. This goodbye is not forever nor is it the end it only means, I'll miss you until we meet again.

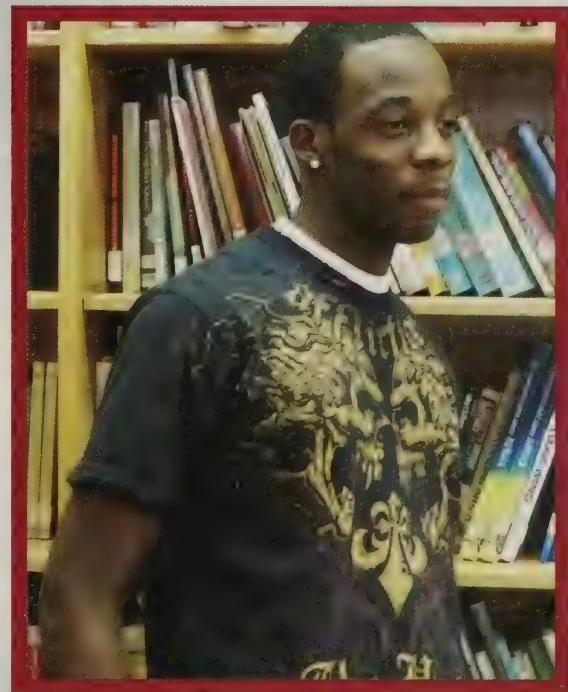
I cannot say goodbye to those whom I have grown to love, for the memories we have made will last a lifetime and never know a goodbye. It is clear the future holds great opportunities. It also holds pitfalls. The trick is to avoid pitfalls, seize the opportunities, and make it to the top. I love all of you guys and will miss you greatly.



## *Jennifer Baawuah*

"I know this world is so cold and deceiving so I keep my head up like my nose is bleeding." I was always told as a youngster that if I work hard, anything was possible, and I could be whatever I wanted to be. As long as I stayed true to myself and God, I was going to be successful. My 6 years at University were very enlightening to me and I have learned many lessons that I will be able to take with me into the real world. While at university there was a selected group of people which I associate myself with and they go by the "UNI BOYS". Toms Prod, Raney, Fave 5, Capo, Bang, Mr. Faureal, Mat, Chubbz, Venom, and Biscuit. Shout out to my President Barack Obama. SKEET...C/O 2009... "Uni Bois in the building, Swagga on sum high ish endin in a illion"

Warren Watts



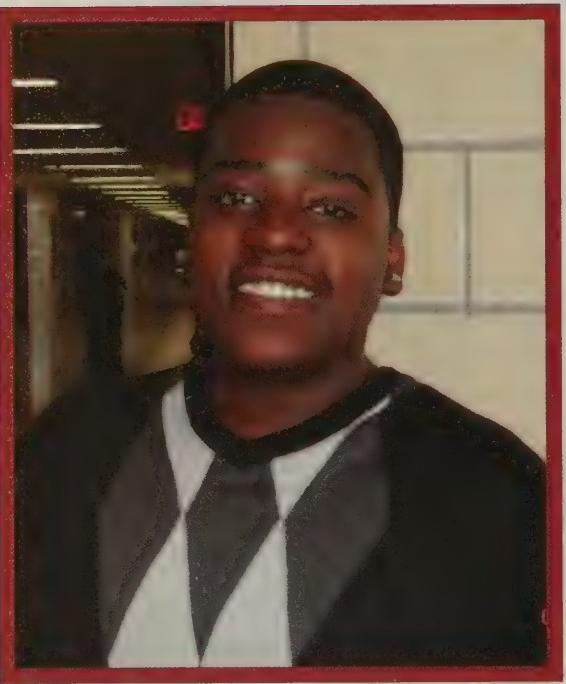
*Warren Watts*



In this era of 2009, I along with the rest of you have had an opportunity to see history in the making. The inauguration of Barack Obama not only unified a whole country but, also unified the perspective that every individual has the ability, and capability to become someone and someone great. I have realized that although life is quite succinct, it is full of challenges that enable us to live it at our best. Never forget that the best rewards come from the determination and hard work it takes to succeed.

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending"  
Maria Robinson Quote

*Marilyn Onwunaka*



Wow! Its finally time to take our walk across the stage and fulfill our destiny of success. We been through so many adversities, but we never let that falter us. We are the young to the old world. It's time that we prove that we can become lawyers, doctors, chefs, or whatever you want to become. We are the role model for the youth and we are the community leaders for the future. It all began in 05 when university was the school for us. Over the years I have met so many people and experienced so many things. It has been the best of times and the worst of times for us but we are still here, STRONG as can be! I just want to thank everyone who has helped me with advancing to this stage in my life. Here I have learned so much from you guys, and you have learned so much from me. There are some I will miss dearly, and others I will not, but I'm not looking back anymore because it's time to look forward toward a new experience, a college experience. This year will be remembered as the year of the Black President and the year of the best class. I would like to give shout outs to Chanelle, Dana, Breanna, Will-Murder, Jerry, Gironda, Guidance, Dr. Beaumont, Friends, Family and 09. Just remember, its 09 I TIME TA SHINE!!

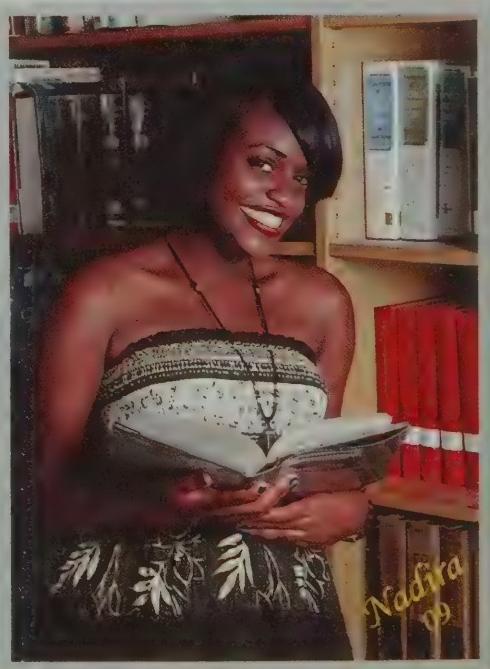
## Hosea Moore

I would like to thank my Grandmother Sara Foster, God rest her soul for giving me the motivation to persevere in high school. My mother has been a constant supporter in my academics, and I appreciate her for accepting me and

bringing me into this world; a thanks goes without saying. My sister Tyanna deserves so much recognition for her informal mentorship through my troubles. I would like to thank Zaeiah Wicks for treating me with care that is rare in these times and for befriending me when I was alone. Ms. Graham, you have been a friend and mother to me in and out of school and I'm forever grateful. Ms. Ortiz, thank you for being a good friend and tutor, I appreciate having known you-no lie! Thanks for everything Ms. Schiele, Ms. Leotsakas; you are by far the most down-to-earth teacher I've ever had and a wonderful person, thank you for taking time to know me. Thank you to Rachel Bernard, for the time we had as best friends.

Thank you: Shariyah, Joshua, Maisah, Youssouf, the Geek Squad, and Tajeya for always making me smile.

To Aferidian; I owe you so much gratitude for all the little things you've done for me throughout the years, but mostly for encouraging and believing in me when no one else would. Thank you to my best friend Brian, you're my wonder wall. I would like to thank the entire Class of 2009 as well simply for being around.



## Nadira Foster-Williams

These last four years at University have gone by so fast. It was just like yesterday: I was a freshman at Summer Bridge trying to make friends. First and foremost, I would like to thank my Grandmother, who raised me every since I was a child. She helped me become the respectful young lady I am today and I am appreciative for the time that we shared. I'm very grateful for having my godmother who has been there for me whenever I needed her; I love you Goddie! Who knows

where I would be without Uncle Hadi and Auntie Mima, thanks for providing the best home for me. I know that I can always count on my two wonderful siblings, Liyah and Saadi.

My older cousins Hadi, Yamina, and Jauhara have always made it easy for me to do good because they are Great role models; they're my role models. High school would not have been fun without my best friends Dj, Jent, Bre, Tu, Nana, Britt, Key, Boogie, Dom, La, Ci, and Kiy. Even though we have some tough times, I love you guys so much. To the rest of my favorites Nadi-rah, Jump, Ib, Mod, Jerry, the Fave, Kreesh, Malik, Vicky, Twin, Pepz, Wildamie, Matt, Bor, Monty, Ish, Dro, Mecc, Juan, Uni Boiz, Noop, Frank, Prince and anyone I forgot; I love yall too! I would like to give special thanks to Ms. Rojy, Mr. Davis and Ms. Benders. I now everyone will miss me but you know that's life! It's been real! PLASTICKZ!!!



*Tajeyya Grandberry*



*Maisah Conover*

I would like to start off by thanking my parents, Joyce and Frank. Without these two, I would not be here. I would like to thank my siblings, Tash, Rauh, and Naim for being my rock. I would like to thank the rest of my family. Before University, I attended Shabazz. I'm glad that my parents wanted me to go to University. Throughout my three years here, I have become very acquainted with a number of people. Thanks to my teachers, DeVaughn, Ortiz, Schiele, Hood, Scooter Pie, Coach E, and Husain. To Wildamie, you're the bestest and most genuine friend a person could ask for. You were there to keep the peace. To Danielle, my left hand, we were together thru thick and thin. To Malik, I HATE you to the max. You are aggy right along with that lying son of a gun TuTu, but shes EXTREMELY aggy. If I had a dollar for every time she lied, I'd be rich! JK!! But seriously, I love you two no matter what. To Dania and Breanna, spic and span, you two are crazy and bipolar. But, I love you guys soooooo much. To Juan, my fff-fat friend forever, you were there when I was down and feeling lonely. We shared the same thoughts about life and got through our problems together. To Nadira, you have made my senior year the best year ever. I can always count on you to cheer me up. To the PLASTICKZ, you guys are the funniest and I love hanging with yall. Shout outs to Kreash, Nadi-ah, Jerry, Chelsea, Uni Bois, Oneeka, Zehra, Sexy Rach, Frank, and Kathi, my twin Eugeunia, and T'Leya and everyone else I have come across. See you on the flip side!



*Jenkel Phillips*

OMG IT'S FINALLY OVA; 4 long years and graduation day is almost here; I remember it like yesterday my first day of high school and now my last day is being counted down. I can't say it was easy but, I made it and for that there is a couple of people I would like to thank; first I would like to thank GOD for guiding me in the right direction, next I would like to thank my grandparents for help raising me and parents for making such a beautiful girl; it might sound arrogant, but I would like to thank myself for making the right choices when it was time to; I couldn't leave B4 shoutin out my big sisters, Taysia, Devielle, Shanell and Yannah; my lil sistaz, Nea, Nae, India, Jean and Ciiera, my cuzzins; Shena, Fussy, Tony, Aasa; Da Homies from Slash; my god-mothers; my 2nd Fam (da Stevensons) everybody that's not here physically Rocky & Wayne I love yall I would never forget you; Grandma I know ur smiling down on me and I promise to keep you proud. To my heart (Rahmin) even-though we go through so much, I will always love you; Noop (cuzzin), Frank (homeboy), Prince, Ish, Amir, Dro, Nick, Jerry, Kajuan, Moody-Mod, Da Uni-Boyz , my mentor Ms. Benders, Mrs. Wilson, Ms. Schiele, Coach E (Beloved) Ms. Devaughn, Aunt Monie Michelle crazy self, Mecca, Nadi, Tajeya..And last but not least My Plastickz Gurlies Class of 09 baby we outta here\*\*PENN STATE HERE I COME\*\*  
PLASTICKZ!!!!!!!!!

If you don't stand for something you would die for nothing. First off I want to start off saying thanks to God. My mother, my sisters and all the staff here at the Uni that helped me out! I put this school through a lot and I want to say I didn't mean it. Life at the Uni for 4 years has been crazy but at the end of the day we made it.

I want to shout out all my Uni bois, Bang, Bor, Skeet, Raney, Matt, Fave 5, Toms Prod, Prince, Noop, Chubbs, and Venom and Biscuit, we came and took ova the world. Big ups to my President the first black President B-Rack.

Shout out to my boo you know who you are I see you baby! Shout out to my hometown Brooklyn and last but not least shout out to all the haters', man I see yall, yall keep me moving yall know who yall are. I'm scared of what I won't become and your scared of what I become! Have faith in God put him first and everything is going to be alright. And I'm going to leave yall with this, always remember people will judge and remember you for what you build not for what you destroy-Supreme Jones aka Capo Status c/o 09. Uni Bois in the building Swagga on some high ish ending with a illion.



*Supreme Jones*

OMG 6 years and it's finally over!!! All of this would not be possible without the love and support of family, especially Auntie and Uncle Benji who loves, guides and built me to be the strong responsible young woman that I am now. Jamillah,

I love you so much. I hope to leave a legacy for you to one day follow. Who knows where I would be without my bestest

friend in the whole wide world, Dominique. Dom, I remember in 7th and 8th grade when we barely would speak, now look at us, inseparable; I LOVE YOU BEST. To the rest

of my plastick gurlies; sista (Britt), both favs (Maisah and Brielle), cousin (Jent), Boogie, Ki, Tu-tat (Siiera), lil mama

(Cierra), Latifah and last, but not least, my right hand (Tanyshwia) although we always had something to argue and fight about, there isn't another group of girls who I would

want to spend my high school years with. I love you all

dearly. To the kindest person I ever met, Ms. Schiele, although I'm just having you as a student this year, I wish I would have met you sooner, not only are you a great teacher, but you're a wonderful mentor. I promise to stay in touch.

Last, but not last, my fav (Ibn), Moody, Sahid, Michelle, Nadirah, Nick, Biff (Warren), As-Sabur, Jerry, my favorite

person in the world (Noop), Frank, Chris, Prince, Amir, Latifah, and Brandino! Lol I love you all. I guess this is the last time I get to say PLASTICKZ lol!!!!!!



*TKeyah Sneed*



*Alnesa Turner*

It's finally that time. These four years of high school have been long and crazy but they helped me learn and grow into the person I have become. I want to thank my teachers for helping me when I needed them. To my PLASTICKZ I love yall and I'm so happy that I have 13 beautiful, wonderful friends. I honestly can say yall are the best things that happened to me. To my best Kiyana I love you and remember when times get hard because we are in a recession just say fried my Brutha! High school went by so fast but I'm glad to say it's time to blow this joint. Shout out to the homies; M%dy, Ibn, Ish, Dro, Frank, Noop, J-love, Amir, Juan, Vanessa, Tajeya, Malik, Prince, Nadirah, Uni Bois, and Michelle. We out of here Baby!!!



WATZ SHAKIN. To my family, mommy, grandparents, my sisters, my nephews, my brother, my aunts, my uncles, and my cousins, thanks for always being my rock and always keeping me focused. To the lunch crew 5th period, I'm going to miss yall Mina (your stories), Venom (your dancing and old man ways), Marty (your cursing and breaking rules attitude), Dre (your dancing) and the main crew Aja (your silliness) Zaeiah (the arguments we had), Toni (bad singing), and Ness (always keeping me laughing in class). I want to thank my favorite teacher Ms. Schiele (for taking me under her wing and guiding me throughout the years. I am such a teachers pet; I'm going to miss you Ms. Schiele). Mrs. Lockett (an excellent guidance counselor; Im going to miss you Mrs. Lockett). Mr. Scutari Scoot (for helping me become a better math student). To the CLASS OF 09 (thanks for some of the craziest and most memorable times). BEST CLASS IN UNI HISTORY. DARE TO BE DIFFERENT 09 MUCH LOVE!! TASH

*Nastasha Dorch*

The day is almost here I can't believe we are about to graduate. Seems like last year we were freshman planning our senior year. Shout out to the entire Senior Class we made it yall and beaten the urban graduating statistic. However I would have never made it without my support system of family and friends. Much love to my mother who stayed on my about my grades and held me up when I was slacking off. Without your tough love

I wouldn't have finished with good standings. To my father I want my car, I made principals list lol, and Gigi thanks being mommy number two. To all my Flava Gurlz, the oh so cute and fly friends, thanks for sticking there with me for four years I know C. Swirl could be a tough cookie (lol). To the law club thanks for the laughs, and the food. Yeah, I truly grown into a Dirty Bird and I

will continue to rise up from the flames, and pay it forward. I wanted to give a long list of names but I didnt want to leave anyone out, but yall know who you are lol, and I be keeping in tough, this not the end, only the beginning so peace love and Obama.



*Jasmine Hardesty*

Well like OMG!!! It's like totally 2009 and in a few months I'm going to be exposed to this real world I've heard so much about Hmm, my 4 years in University, I've learned to take the

bus (not putting the bus ticket in the money slot lol), to understanding the values of forgiveness. Let's just say from the security to principal, I have become a pretty little problem. Daisy will miss my graceful singing & Moni will get fat from not chasing me to class:). Before, I continue the only person

who deserves the credit of it all is my lord and saviour, and then right behind him is my mommy, who has not been with me for 8 years but manage to turn her baby into a strong lady.

Without her, it is a fact that I would not be writing a dedication in my senior yearbook; when quitting seemed so easy, she taught me to pray and put my fate in god. ,As for dad & my moms in school Sharpe, Rosi & Kazcka, you guys have made school a home. ,I now send xoxo to my big bro Mike #1

man in my life, Juju, Berni, Mimi, and my Essence, Lola Buddy, Sammy, ZEHRA!!! Best, my bff Stacie, Da sisz, ma gramps (ma best advisor, without him idk what Id do), Mr. Husain and finally my Pynk Panthaz (da best of da best). Well done is better than well said. THYNK PYNK\* DEUCESZ!



*Oneeka Johnson*



*Raymond Blanks*

Looking back at the past four years I can really say that this place will always have a special place in my heart. I mean, I entered University as a 13-year old kid and I will exit as a young man, fortunate enough to have come along a supporting cast of individuals that have influenced my life tremendously. The high school experience as a whole has influenced my personal development. Throughout my years in high school, I can say that the staff had done a tremendous job at preparing me for not only the college life, but life in the real world. Since stepping foot in University High School, I have some alot unique people who I have interacted with in the classroom that I have grown to like over the years. Over this four year period, we have embraced the good as well as the bad as a very focused and determined class. I am very honored and privileged to have come from a school like University because of its name, reputation, and tradition. In addition, our mascot is the complete representation of life and what happens during the different phases. Rebirth and transformation isn't bringing in something new or different, but bringing life or energy back to to it'd original purpose and starting over again. In my opinion, success in life is all about making a difference. With this being said, it quite ironic that the motto of University High School is to Pay it Forward. Thanks for everything.



*Shariyah Gordon*

These past years at University have been the most developmental years of my current life. The experienced and the education that I have shared here with the faculty and my peers is an exclusive gift that I could not have been awarded any place else. I would like to thank all of those who have made it possible for me to excel the way that I have in this day and age. Mr. Scutari, Ms. Devaughn, Dr. Rahimi, and Mrs. Lockett, thank you all because you all believed in me the entire way through. Mom, Dad, and family thanks for all of the support and motivation. Last but not least my friends I thank you all for all of the silly times we have been through. I love you guys!!

And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years. First and foremost she guided me through life and she told me which direction to continue to walk in after I receive my diploma. My motivation is my mother. Learning and living the normal teenage life made me who I am today. The sisters I have also guided me through life as well, because they made many accomplishments. Having friends to run to when needed was a big help to me. I thank Mecca and Tajanea for the good times that we always shared. I want to give a shout out to: MY FAMILY: mostly my mother and my aunt, 5 star (NEA), Mecca, Bella Nae, Monie B, Vanessa, Alejandro, Tinie (Iquia), Ish, Ms. Tierney & her click, Pipo (juan), Nadi (Nadirah), Ci Ci( Cierra), Maisah, Tiana, Fuss (Qunisha), India, Noop, Prince, Kiyana, Material Girl (Tiya), Victoria, Frank, Danielle, Latifah J, Lanaja, The Plastickz, the alumnis. Theress, Toms Prodigy (Lamont), Outsiders: Capo, NCC homies, LA homies, Cashae, Breanna, Mikey, Tanajah, and Will.



*Michelle Peppers*

# REMEMBER WHEN ...

Leon left :(

Santos and Stephon got kicked out for spray painting the bathroom .

Chantal pulled off her wig in law .

Supreme got arrested for impersonating a cop .

Stealing in the locker room freshman year .

Leon was on the intercom singing "Na Na Na."

Big water fight freshman year .

We played hide- and- seek in school .

Mac lined us up freshman year.

Nobody knew Jason Foxx at our pep rally Junior year .

Mr. Bey dancing to "A Bay Bay"

People got caught going to the store .

Ms. Siroy - "Don't disrespect my gangsta"

The food fights . Yasheeka fell out the chair .

Britt dancing to "Single Ladies" at game night .

Bor vs.. Abrina at the pep rally junior year .

Mr. Cardosa's crazy stories .

Amir changed his name to Shareef .

Eduardo did Shakira for Lip Sync .

Mrs. DeVaughn had stain .

Mrs. DeVaughn chased Kajuan .

Chantal used to chase Juan .

The booty bounce contests .

Maisah and Kajuan used to crump .

Tajeya, Britt, Hosea and Breanna cut their hair

Junior Day .



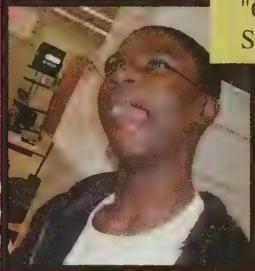


# SENIORS RULE!





"Ahhhhh!"  
Yells Yusef  
"Ohhhhh!"  
Says Jamil



Ms. Rossi making  
her funny face?



WOW! This is a real  
"Laugh Out Loud," face.



Britt and Wildamie making  
their funny faces



Samada and Stacie both hear  
no evil and see no evil!



Zehra is pleasantly  
sleeping...wonder  
what she's dreaming  
about?



Areley and  
Natasha looking  
funny.



And there goes Spencer  
sticking out his tongue...He  
must have eaten something  
nasty to make that face!

# ACES



Hey Martin...  
Are you awake?



Siera and Jenkel acting a  
total fool!



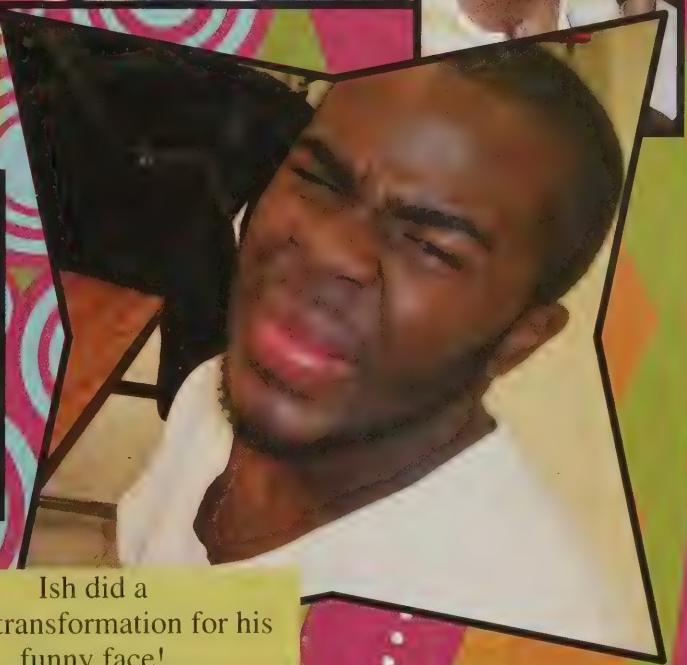
Jennifer put  
your tongue  
back in your  
mouth sweetie!



Crystal and Ms. Ruesta  
make their funny faces  
while laughing.



Aferidean screams...  
"HEEEY!"

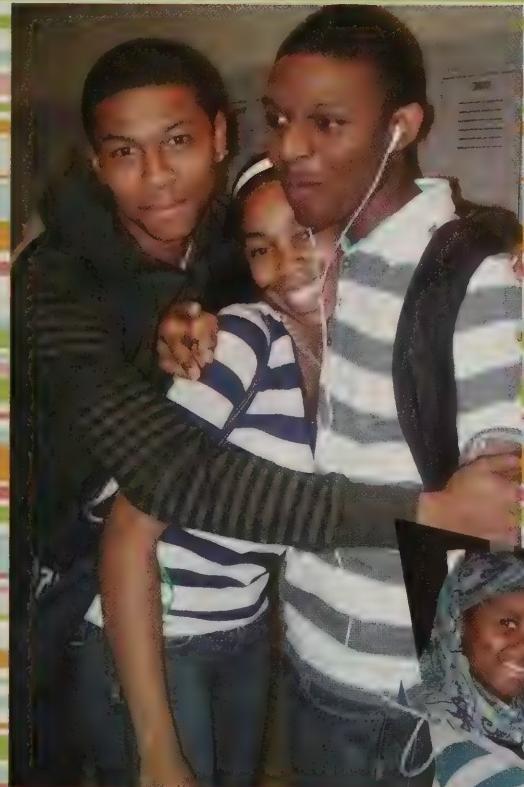


Ish did a  
100% transformation for his  
funny face!



Nadirah's mug  
shot!





# SENIOR STRIPES

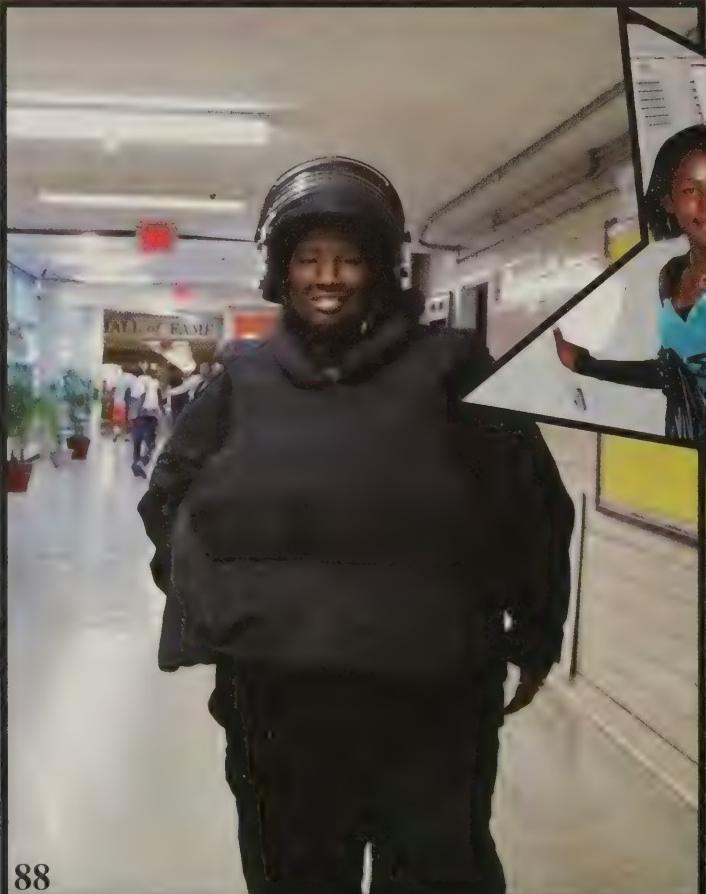
DAY



# School Spirit



Catch It





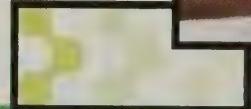
If You



# SENIOR GAME NIGHT



## PLAY ON





WORK

PLAY

RELAX



"LIFE IS ALL FUN  
AND GAMES!"



University is known for winning sports games such as basketball, baseball, volleyball and tennis. Many people are uninformed of our talents in games such as scrabble, Taboo, Uno and spades. Not to forget the Wii's Guitar Hero, Playstation 3's Madden and XBox 360's Halo 3. At the Senior Class Game Night, students bought tickets to play their favorite games while competing with their classmates to win outstanding cash prizes. Game Night at University turned out to be one of the best senior class events ever.

# FESTIVAL OF THE PHOENIX

The Festival of The Phoenix is an annual event that occurs here at University High. An amazing game commences and both the girls and boys play to win. The Festival of the Phoenix is not only a game. It is a showcase in which teams all over the United States come under one roof to show their talent in the field of basketball. College coaches and recruiters are also invited to the event in order to view the players, giving them a chance to be accepted into one of many colleges.





## Words From Nadirah

"Signing my contract was an unforgettable experience. I was extremely excited knowing that I had gained a full scholarship from just doing something I enjoyed, which is playing basketball!"

# PEP



## Senior Dance >>

Senior Pep Rally  
Dancer shakin'  
what they mama  
gave them!

## << Band

Mr. Corley's band  
drummers  
showing off their  
musical skills



## Band Dancers >>

The Band dancers  
dancing for  
Phoenix pride.

## << Arm wrestling

Mr. Newsome  
showing some  
Phoenix strength.



## '09 Mural >>

The Class of '09  
mural shows why  
we are #1.

## << Pep Squad

We're Here to  
represent!!!  
We're Here to  
represent!!!



## << Class President

Class President  
showing what a school  
pride get-up looks  
like.



## <<'09!!!!!!

'09 girls lookin'  
lovely at Pep  
Rally.

# RALLY



**<< Get Jiggy!!**

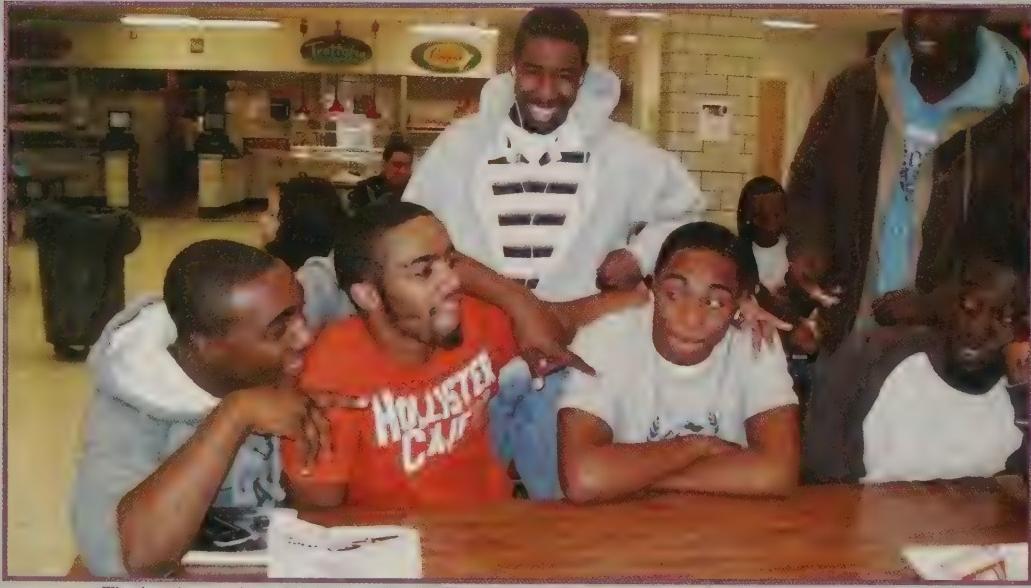
CMS ready get their dance on.

**Salsa >>**

Student and teacher getting their move on.



# CAFETERIA FLICKS



The lunchroom is a place where the UHS students can relax and have fun; finishing homework, talking about what happened on t.v. the night before, catching up on the latest Myspace drama, the boys around a lunch table rapping, the girls flicking it up or an all out dance session. Oh yeah, we eat there too.



## VOLUNTEERS



FRESHMAN  
TOY DRIVE

HOPE HOLIDAY  
TOY GIVEAWAY

# PAY IT FORWARD





"Being apart of the thanksgiving food drive was fun. I enjoyed helping the families that were less fortunate. I learned a lot of from participating in the food drive and it helped me appreciate all of the things I have. I look forward to doing it again next year."

-Michael Hobbs



*don't you just  
love the  
holidays?*

It is always better to give than to receive. Try to spend your holiday making someone else happy and you'll have the most fun in the end.

**FALL**

Always remember to be grateful for what you have because there is always some one who has less than you.



**Chelsea,  
Breanna,  
and under  
classmates  
get ready to  
deliver  
food.**



# Thanksgiving Food Drive



Ms. Benders, along with the help of the senior, junior and freshman class, packed up donated goods for families who were less fortunate. The food was taken to the light house on Washington Street in Newark, NJ.



Kiyema Stocks is happy to be participating in the food drive.



Hey look there's Ms. Pat!!

It's always great and appreciated when the faculty comes out to support the students; while Paying It Forward.

"A taste of the good life..Progresso Soup"-Wildamie C.



Acknowledged for their selfless school motto "Pay it Forward," students from University High School embrace the holiday spirit with their daily routine facts of civil duty. As a school of the humanities we take great pride in creating an environment that nurtures the spirit of giving.









Tiana S.



Jerry H.  
&  
Latifah J.

# Y M G R

Food and  
Clothing Drive

Jameisha T., Stacie  
A., Andre T., Maisah  
C., Danielle C., &  
Supreme J.



Chantal G. & Tiana S....



B: Alexander M., Sarah C.,  
Jameisha T., Stacie A.,  
Andre T., Maisah C.,  
Danielle C., Supreme J.,  
Phoebe P., and Devon B.  
gather around the  
collected items.

A: Jerry H., Nadira F.,  
Latifah J., and  
Tajeyia G. at the  
YMCA.



# Giving Back To

As an ongoing community service project, seniors collected and donated clothing items to the YMCA shelter on Broad Street. During the month of December, they made three trips there, exemplifying the schools motto while "Paying It Forward". The money raised

The excellence of a gift lies in its appropriateness rather than its value.  
- Charles D. Warner

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.  
-Aesop

From a Fundraiser was used to purchase toys and games for the children in the shelter and they were given to them on Christmas morning. They continued their acts of Kindness throughout the school year, collecting clothes and donating necessary items to those less fortunate.

Happy Holidays



A: Nadirah M., Michelle P., TKeyah S., Maisah C., and JenKel P. with one of the workers from the YMCA.

B: Chantal G., Tiana S., Chelsea M., and Jeffrey I.



Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.  
-Khalil Gibran

# Our Community



Jerry H. and Latifah unloading the car.



Jerry H. and Jeffrey I. loading the car up.

Sometimes when we are generous in small, barely detectable ways it can change someone else's life forever.

-Margaret Cho



Jeffrey I. and Jerry H. prepare to deliver the items to the shelter.



Nadira M., Tajeya G., Jerry H., and Latifah J. unloading the car.



Over 1,041 cans  
were collected by  
the class to donate  
...way to go  
sophomores!



## Sophomore Class Can/Food Drive

Sophomore Class  
teachers; Mrs. Ruesta, Mr.  
Connolly, Mr. Jones, Mrs.  
McNamara and Mrs. Kairu  
organized its class of 2011  
to help the less fortunate by  
bringing in cans of food for  
the upcoming holidays.



Students are  
excited to hear  
about the work  
they have  
accomplished.

Gathering all  
the cans  
together.

## Sophomores!



WOW my girl



Aren't you  
proud of  
your  
students,  
teachers?

Good News.  
Great food drive!!!



The boys carrying cans from the car.



A food drive was a great idea and it turned out to be a success.



10411

Go Sophomores!!



# BRINGING JOY TO THE HOMELESS



**UHS students help hand out gifts, serve food and sort clothes to give to the homeless at the H.O.P.E. Center in Irvington, NJ.**

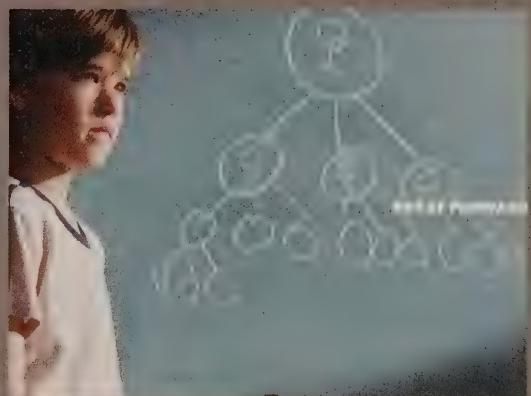
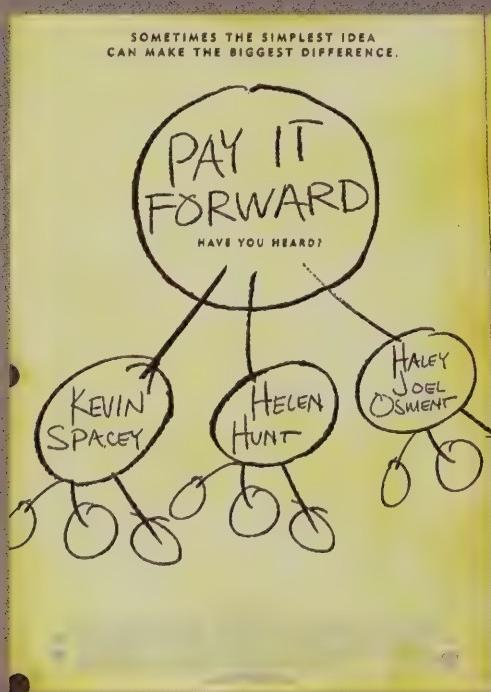
# THE PHOENIX FAMILY



# VOLUNTEERS AT H.O.P.E.



**Pay it forward is a constant state of helping others. The students of University High School of the Humanities have shown pride in this phenomenon by participating and hosting various activities yearly.**



Stand up and make a difference





# BASKET



Coach E shares a hug with team player Devon Gibson



Devon "Noop" Gibson jumps for joy after winning a game.



Phoenix Men at a luncheon celebrating their continuing victory.



Frank Tape



Brandon Waiters



Playing as a Team



Frank Tape shooting the ball



Devon Gibson striking at his opponents



Tyrese Felder



Derrick Hunter



"Lets go Phoenix, lets go"



Phoenix Men Junior Varsity Team



Phoenix Men Varsity Team



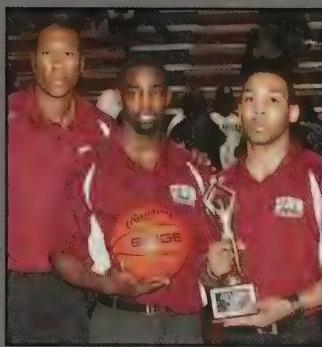
Lady Phoenix Junior Varsity Team



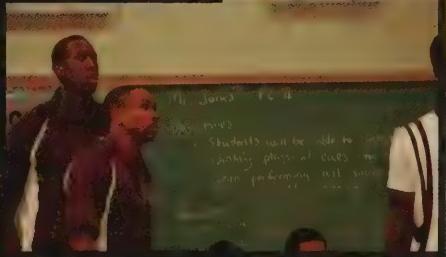
Lady Phoenix Varsity Team

# BALL

"It has been a great year for the Phoenix Boys! We made history and created a lot of memories in the process. The coaching staff was really blessed with a great group of guys.



SHOUT OUTS TO MY SENIORS COACH BELOVED WILL MISS YOU!!! JV BOYS HAD A GREAT YEAR AS WELL. They, including returning player's, will keep the University tradition going!!!  
**COACH E**



"We go hard at life to achieve our dreams. Lets continue to move forward in a humble manner and appreciate life." Coach Demond

# Varsity Fun



## The Ballers.

(In descending order) Gloria Appiah-Kubi, Shanique Graves, and Judith Ezike pose for their photo debut as three of University's top Volleyballers.

“Volleyball gave me the ability to lead and be led.  
-Marilyn O.



(ABOVE)  
University's M.V.P.s receive gifts and an enthusiastic speech from Coach Wilson.

(TO THE RIGHT)  
Zaeiah Wicks spikes a rogue volleyball out of her domain in a quick decision during drills.

varsity volleyball



All together now!



Work that up-do Marilyn!



The Phoenix Volleyball Team does well in upholding University's legacy as champions.



(BELOW)

The Phoenix's Volleyball  
players unite and channel  
their team spirit!



## Outstanding Coach

"She has  
been one of  
the most  
influential  
people in my  
life; having

her as a coach on the team has  
instilled a lot of confidence in me.  
I appreciate everything she has  
done for me. She is a very  
motivating force--a coach to be  
reckoned with!"

-Gloria Appiah Kubi, Grade 12



**Coach Wilson**



(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Sharee Gordon, Kiiera Robinson, Shanique Graves, Monique Joseph, Amber Thompson, Andrea Fosuhene, Zaeiah Wicks, Marilyn Owunaka, Judith Ezike, Gloria Appiah-Kubi  
(NOT SEEN) Angel Fosuhene

VOLLEYBALL



# ○ ○○○ **BASEBALL**

&



# ○ ○○○ **SOFTBALL**



**Coach Connolly instructing his softball team.**



**Softball Group  
Picture: Go Phoenix  
Go!!**



**Tamikah  
Gilmore in  
the outfield  
waiting to  
scoop up a  
loose ball.**



**Zaeiah Wicks  
knocking a pitch  
out of the park.**



**To the left: The  
Baseball Team  
dressed to impress.**



**Alaiyah Harris-Rice  
in the outfield  
prepared to scoop  
up a loose ball.**



Above : Michael Kisinski grabbing up a loose ball to throw to 3rd base.



To the left  
Somebody's got  
to pick em up.

To the bottom: A group stretch to start off a good practice.



Mr. Scutari and Coach Dell conversing at practice.



Strong knees and good hand - eye coordination are some of qualities of this star catcher.



Andrea Fosuhene winding up for a pitch. Looks like she's trying to strike someone out!!



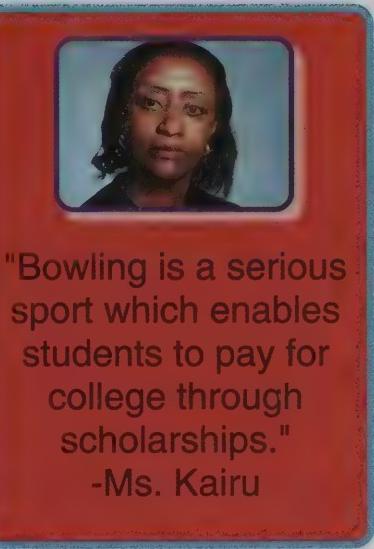
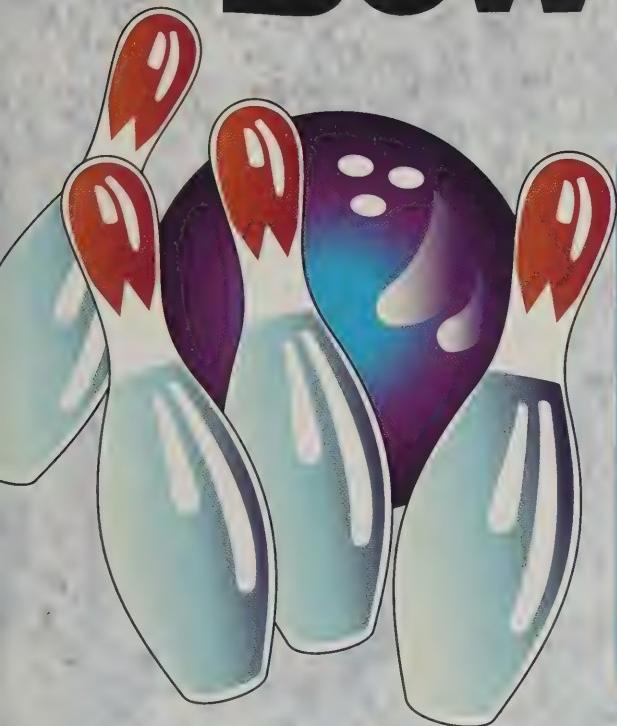
Michael Hobbs in the outfield getting ready for a hit.

# TRACK & FIELD

# CROSS COUNTRY



# Bowling



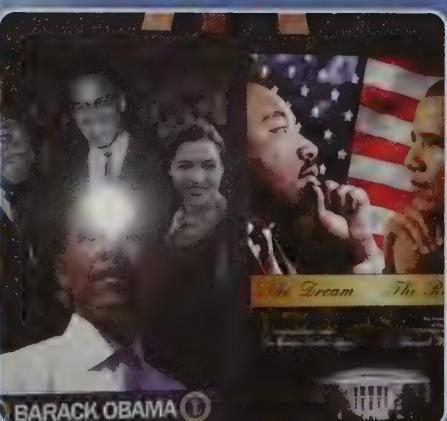
T  
E  
A  
M



|                  | AVG. |
|------------------|------|
| Gia Bethea       | 195  |
| Jasmine Hardesty | 165  |
| Chris Raney      | 155  |
| Marcel Green     | 141  |
| Hosea Moore      | 125  |



# Events Of The Year



JANUARY

# PRESIDENTIAL

2009

## INAUGURATION



"The Presidential inauguration was an inspirational and motivating experience that provided me with the belief that I can do anything." -Shariyah G.



"Witnessing the inauguration of the first African-American president was an unforgettable experience. Now I truly trust that I can achieve any endeavor I aspire." - Sydnei B.



"It was a moving ceremony. I am happy to see an African-American finally in The White House" -Aferidian S.



"Watching history being made was a wonderful experience. I was happy to see Martin's dream finally come alive, showing that hard work does pay off." -Samada G.



"The inauguration of President Obama was definitely one of the most significant events to occur in the history of the United States. It meant a lot to take part in such a remarkable experience." - Gloria A.



UHS PRESENTS

# LIP SYNC

Monique Joseph participated in the Contest as a backup dancer for the Sophomore's Beyonce performance.



Dominique Linton as Rhianna singing Disterbia



Rihanna and dancers rip the stage performing "Disterbia"

Beyoncé was the artist of the night... These ladies also performed Diva

Salt and Peppa performed "Pssh It" and they even had a spenderella



# OUR ANNUAL CONTEST!



They told us that they were going to "Bump like this" performing Kelis. This BET performance won 1st place

These Single Ladies worked the stage so great that they won 3rd place in the "Battle of Single Ladies"

Brittany Black (middle) leads her group in the extended version of "Get me Bodied," by Beyoncé.



Eotree (as Beyoncé) and her dancers worked very hard to win 2nd place in "The battle of the Single Ladies"



Jennifer Wilson and Diamonte took it way back to Salt and Pepper... Straight 80's all the way!



YOURSELF

# POETRY CAFE



The University High School staff rocks out in a Jam Session started by Aferidian Stephen's composition; 10:45



Professional poet, UHS alumni, and this year's host of the Cafe, Elijah charms Mrs. DeVaughn off the stage.



The students of the Phoenix are drawn to the creative writings the speakers have to offer.

Gee-Gee compels her audience with the courage required of a Phoenix.

An annual tradition, the poetry cafe usually renders all of University's scholars.



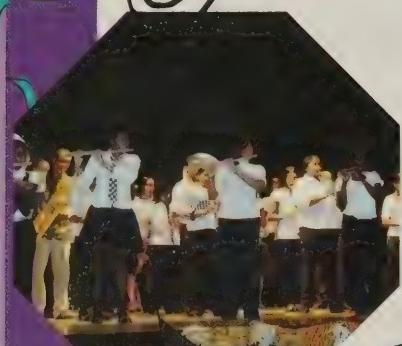
Regina Robinson has become a pro presenter at UHS's Poetry Cafe.



REBEL'S TRANSITIONAL COUNTY EVENT AT EAGLE  
ROCK BOWLING ALLEY. STUDENTS HAD FUN PLAYING  
THE GAMES WHILE CONNECTING WITH REBEL  
MEMBERS.



# UNIVERSITY'S SPRING CONCERT



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009  
FROM  
THE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL  
PHOENIX ALUMNI ORANIZATION**

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

JAMEL THOMAS  
KAKILA HUNTER  
KENNETH ASHIANOR  
SHERELLE PONDER  
MARTINIQUE MOORE  
LAARVERNE GAINES  
MICHAEL IVERY  
KEISHA SPENCER  
NARITHA VELEZ  
BRANDY HOLLAND  
ARLETHA PERSON  
JASON WILLIAMS  
KITAB ROLLINS

MARC C. CONVINGTON  
SHARON BOWLES  
ANTWAN MINTER  
DONNA JOHNSON  
LATISHA LEWTER  
WENYLLA REID  
CRAIG HOOPER  
RHONDA SCALES  
ALTON FAULTEZ  
DENISE HOLLAND  
SJEKIENNA MCCREARY  
LISA BARNES  
SHANDA HARRIS

DONNA STRUTHERS  
EDITH MOORE MUHAMMAD  
CHERYL HAYES-MOORE  
AYESHA CROSS  
CHERYL VANCE  
KIMBERLY ALSTON-PRIME  
LEANN SIMMONS  
JOZETTE PENNINGTON  
FELICIA OLEVER  
ELTONYA RILEY DENBY  
ALISHA LEE  
NATASHA DYER  
RAHIM HORTON

**Congrats baby girl, U did it! Love u sis!**  
— Jackie M.

**Congrats Grad!**

**Terran Singletary**  
R.  
I.  
P.  
G.  
m  
a

**The Apostle Girls**

**Vicki Taylor & Family**

**Carolyn Jones & Family**

**2009**

You did it! "Standin' in Line" Love you & watch ur three head out fast in your parturition.

I pray that God continues to bless you as you reach new heights! Love you always — Trenae M.

...good luck as you venture out into the unknown to find something of your own... — Natalie S.

Congrats Zae 4 completing 4yrs of high school. To the best "Babysitter" in the WORLD!!! — Sabria & Kyasia

Congrats Zae 4 completing 4yrs of high school. To the best "Babysitter" in the WORLD!!! — Sabria & Kyasia

To my niece Zaeiah: Good luck on the endeavors that you are about to face. Always remember that your cook is only but a phone call away. Love — Auntie Nikki

Keep up the good work, love you! — Maniza & Willie N.

Keep pressing forward! Pursue all of your dreams... I know you will... Much Lovel — Nocturnal Naheen

**Derrick Williams**

**Congrats Zaeiah From your little big cuz — Tachelle J.**

**Marc Burnette**

**Sherolyn Jones**

**Maureen Smith**

**Andre L.**

**Tabby, Sean, Jay & dj**

**Marilyn Uchendu Onwunaka,  
The entire family congratulates  
you and thanks God for leading you  
through, and achieving this great  
success. Bravo, and more power to  
your elbow.**

**Signed,  
Patrick Onwunaka  
for  
Onwunaka's Family**



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
SISTER CHANTY!!!! WE LOVE YOU  
ALWAYS!!! NOW ROCK THEM  
STILETTOS!!!!!!



Chantel we love you and are very proud of the Lady you've become! You've managed to stay Yourself in a world that's doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else which means you're able to fight & win hardest battle which any human being can fight;  
**NEVER STOP FIGHTING!!**

**CONGRATULATIONS WE ARE SOOOO PROUD OF YOU. WE LOVE YOU, YOUR FAMILY!!!!!!**



# RoCCo's UrBAn FAsHion

Autism awareness there taking our babies



Congratulations to my niece  
I'm so proud of all your hard  
work and dedication.....

Love Messiah



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# Congratulations Chris

We are so Proud of You  
and Continue on with  
the good work that you are doing.  
**The Golden Girls, Grandma, Beverly,  
Ceil, and Kathy**



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MON. THRU SAT. 9-5 P.M.

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**To: Sierra Robinson**  
**From: Mom**

There's something special about your  
first born child. Even when you all  
grow up with your own family you'll  
still be my little girl.  
**Congratulations With Love!**

**Congratulations to  
the Class of 2009**  
**From The**  
**Yearbook Committee**  
**Keep up the good work**

“  
Congratulations...  
Rach you are the best  
Best of luck, Best of wishes, you are a star,  
you will go far and much success for the  
future!  
Love Mom, Arethea, Uncle Mike, Dad,  
grandma, T and the boys, BB, Alston and  
family.”

“  
Love Mom, Arethea, Uncle Mike, Dad,  
grandma, T and the boys, BB, Alston and  
family.”

# CHRISTOPHER RANEY



WE HAVE WATCHED YOU  
GROW FROM A BOY TO A  
YOUNG MAN. WE KNOW THAT  
YOU WILL MAKE US PROUD IN  
EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM  
MOM, GRANDMA, AUNT NYLA,  
AUNT MARLA AND STEVIE



Bismillah

# CONGRATULATIONS, LATIFAH



FROM YOUR MOTHER, SISTERS, BROTHERS,  
GRANDMOTHER AND UNCLE WE LOVE YOU  
AND WISH YOU WELL ON YOUR MANY  
ENDEAVORS! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Nadira Foster Williams,  
May your graduation be the first step on your path to  
success. Graduation is a time to celebrate your  
achievements, prepare for a future of opportunities and  
embrace a world of infinite possibilities.  
To happy endings and new beginnings,  
Congratulations!  
Love, Always and Forever,  
Your Family

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Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem  
Congratulations Samada !!!

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R



We are proud of you and we knew you could do it.  
We all love you and will always be there for you.

From Your Loving Family.

Holiday, Flemming, Grimes, & Young

# Congratulations Samada

Councilwoman Sharon Fields  
City of East Orange  
4th Ward



Best Wishes & Good Luck

# Congratulations Samada



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**CONGRATULATES**  
**THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009**

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# CONGRATULATIONS

## TO THE CLASS OF 2009

### MY FIRST GRADUATING CLASS



GOOD LUCK  
GRADUATES

REMEMBER TO  
SHOOT FOR THE MOON,  
EVEN IF YOU MISS,  
YOU'LL LAND AMONG THE STARS



I AM SO PROUD OF YOU!

MONIC E. LOCKETT  
YOUR COUNSELOR  
2005-2009

# *"Supreme"*

To my son, I watched you go through many stages in your life. I've been there with you through it all. But the proudest moment and the biggest highlight of all is when you walk across the stage of "UHS". You walking into your manhood. I'm so proud of you "son". may God always Bless and watch over you.

Love Mommy

To my only God Son  
I'm so proud of you. Keep  
your dreams.  
God mother Keisha

Preme never get tired of doing the right thing. Success comes from taking advantage of opportunities. Life is what you make it. Your making a great life for yourself. Congratulations!  
God mother Simone

CONGRATULATIONS PREME YOU  
MADE IT  
TAMIKA AND GOD SIS MIKAIYA

SUPREME GOD BLESS YOU  
MOMMY LOVES YOU ALWAYS

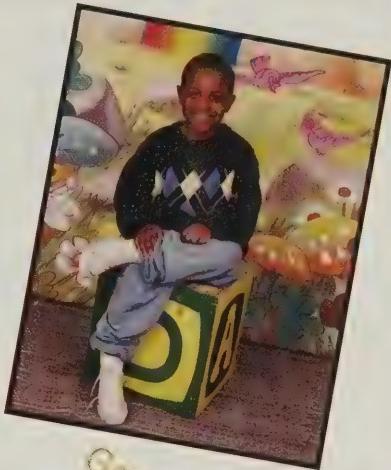
CONGRATULATION SUPREME JONES YOU MADE IT FROM YOUR CHUCH MEMBERS AT METROPOLITIAN BAPTIST CHURCH



My Oldest  
Grandson  
Way to go!  
Grandma Phyllis

To my brother "Emo" you  
made it. Love and proud of  
you.  
Big sis "Qua"

To my son,  
I seen you turn into a  
boy into a man. Keep  
your head up and  
reach for your dreams  
and goals.  
Love Calvin



Good luck Preme  
"Aunt Janice"

To my brother D.J.  
"Preme"  
Congratulations!!  
Love you  
Taylor

Capo Crazy boy but a loyal friend,  
Keep Ya Head Up,  
Uni Bois



# Congratulations From...

Abidemi Jaiyesimi  
Aesha Downing  
Al Toe (2)  
Alicia Solano  
Amanze Okere  
Amir Jones  
Antoine Boyd  
Apryl Moses Parker  
Barbara Hanselmann  
Basim H. Shariah  
Brenda Van Dyke  
Burt Martone (5)  
Chong Courter  
Coach E (Mr. Allen)  
Darius Bryant  
Dawn Harrison  
Dawn Lamb  
Deborah Scott  
Debra Harrison  
Debra Lloyd  
Denzel Bryant  
Diana Lopez- Diaz  
Dianne Sanon  
Dorothea Irvin  
Ellen Uqdadah- Gningue (2)  
Evelyn Princeton  
Francis Estrada  
Frank Cuoco  
Fredswinda Montero  
Gladys Vance  
Gracie Nettingham (2)  
Gwendolyn Franklin  
Harry Paden  
Homalee Cill  
Howard Weiss  
Jack Hatcher (Security)  
Joe Barr (5)  
Jorge Do Couto  
Josephine Adkins  
Judy Carrasca  
Kabir Baber  
Kadida Randall

Khalil Flemming  
Kytria Faison & Family  
Latisha Dargon  
Merlin Hackett  
Michael Reeder (5)  
Michele Thomas & Family  
Monique Collins  
Mr. Newsome  
Mr. Scutari (Scoot)  
Mrs. Daisy  
Mrs. Evans- Vertreese  
Nasir Paden- Closs  
Nereida Lombardi  
Nicole Broadnax & Family  
Nicole Hughes  
Pamela Ross (2)  
Patrice (c/o 2012)  
Pauline Wong  
Pooch (Mr. White)  
Quantashia Closs  
Ras Baraka Southward 2010  
Renee Morgan  
Robin Richardson  
Saniyah Paden- Closs  
Shahara Paden- Closs  
Shannon Isgro  
Shelton Thurman  
Sigfredo Peneranda  
Sondra King  
Teaya Boyce (2)  
Thelia Murphy  
Tonia Washington  
Traci Y. Johnson  
Weequahic HS Football Team  
William Walsh  
Kym M. Hayes  
Daryl D. Bethea, Sr.  
Alton K. Calloway  
Daryl D. Bethea, Jr.  
Jerry Freeman  
Stacey Porter  
Southward Golden Bears Football Team

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Blundetto  
Mr. & Mrs. Jos. O'Connor  
Janet Pattsson  
Angelisa Guilford  
Deborah Irvin  
Michelle Brantley  
Betty Reed  
Janet Spiwak  
Audra D. Fields-Chisolm  
Stephanie Davis  
Keshia Thomas  
Shaneequah Thomas  
Steve Vannoy  
Carol Hogans  
Joan Whitton  
Edith Minnicks  
Mahogany Moore  
Audrey Freeman  
Veronica Branch  
Nancy Tiller  
Sheila McLean  
Terri Cobbs  
Lila M. Hayes  
Kenneth M. Hayes  
Ms. Kairu  
Daneen Grayson  
Ministry of Youth Development  
Mr. Khalil  
Mrs. Evans- Vertreese  
Shantia Hunt  
Keisha Flemming  
Yasmine Chisolm  
Gweyee Boons  
Qwiana Roberson  
Shkira Mayfield  
Ebony Brown  
Ralph Medy  
Wynter Roney  
James Grant  
Mary Green

# Congratulations From...

Tynise Gordon  
Dwayne Hamlitt  
David Cunningham  
Cynthia Cunningham  
Asia Kennedy  
Dr. Dorian Wilson  
Tracy Lomax  
Tracy Lomax, Jr.  
LaMia Lomax  
Aida Ramos  
Darnell Taylor  
Peter Deloreto  
Jacqualine Deseo  
George Mamaril  
Marotes Linaae  
Ronetta Habaradas  
Cristine Abad  
Virna Balasa  
Raquel Chisolm  
Michael Tynes  
Terry Hemmingway  
Bruce Davis  
Rebecca Ricks  
Joe Minta  
Caron DuZiel  
Joshua Gualy  
Thelma Essington  
Sajadah Gordon  
David McCrae  
Wayne Gordon  
Darlene Gordon  
Mercedes Gordon  
Gabrielle Gordon  
Isaih Gordon  
Roche Gordon  
Tauren Goron  
Zyonna Gordon  
Rev. Willie Muse  
Madeline Muse  
Brian Gordon  
Sherelle Gordon  
Sataya Gordon

Shawneste Gordon  
Lisa Williams  
John Williams  
Scott Gordon  
April Boyd  
Lil Scott Gordon, Jr.  
Rev. Joe A. Carter  
Crystal Almonte  
Kwame Boler  
Michael Khalil  
Luticia McAuley  
Mary Leotsakas  
Terron Singletary  
Isis Montesino  
Maureen Smith  
Jennifer Malave  
Andre' Lawrence  
Major Sweet  
Jackie Matthews  
The Aponte Girls  
Janet Maier  
Sharolyn Jones  
Jennifer Ramirez  
Tabitha Ramirez  
Sean Concepcion  
Sabria Armstrong  
Ms. Joey E. Wicks  
DaVan Wicks  
Tanashia Pennix  
Zeke  
Nahleen Taylor  
Trenae McDuffie  
Alanna Lawrence  
Ruth Lawrence  
Tachelle Jackson  
Natalie Salinas  
Vicki Taylor  
Evelyn Pagan & Family  
Kareem TaylorCarolyn  
Marc Burnett  
Nichelle Jackson  
Michael Camron

Laqueecha McBride (5)  
A. Tewman  
Marisol (mom)  
Jarida (sister)  
Shantah Ferguson  
June George (2)  
Marcellus "Bishop" Allen  
Sameerah Muhammad  
Amaya Goodwin  
Shahedah Muhammad  
Margaret Adeyeno  
Martha Hill  
Cynthia Wadladger  
LindaEvans Lonele  
Mary  
Jordan  
Jason  
James Family  
Jenna  
Al Anders  
Mr. Hood  
Tia C. Hamilton  
Isaiah Miller  
Carol Hamilton  
Garvia Chase  
Bill Chase  
Tracy Saltarell  
Martine Cosby  
Gina Darby  
Micchellie Sorey  
Liza Anderson  
Dr. Ellen Cunningham  
Denise McLaurin  
Carl L. Gussin  
Suzette L. Tapp  
Pamela C. Kearney  
Patricia McDowell  
Matthew & Malachi  
Brewster  
Makhay Jackson  
Omar Lowery  
Sheila Alexander Manigault

# Congratulations From...

Janice Jones-Vance  
LaTasha Mitchell  
Elizabeth Ucheghu  
Quiera Evans  
Caridad T. Antonio  
Marion Hughes  
Vanessa Dubose  
Vanessa McCoy  
Fiona Bakery  
Kimberly Speller  
Alaia Robinson  
Zealous  
Tyneisha Beniot  
Leroy Johnson  
Deziyah Baie  
Maria Brown  
Waddy Ali Family  
T.L. Gilchrist  
Juanita Washington  
Maggy Turef  
R. Diggs  
Rotimi  
Mary Ann Brofton  
Charlotte Shareef  
Charles Brofton  
Assata Shareef  
Geordan Childs  
Jessica Bozich  
Robet Bozich  
Jacalyn Bozich  
Michael Vacreas  
Dawn Stephens  
Roxanne Prince  
Madison Riddick  
Doreen Callaghan  
Sarah Munduck  
Billie Robertson  
Edith Baker Jackson

Risha Griffin  
Carrie Griffin  
Uncle Hardy  
Ashley Crudup  
Wayne Maelin  
Bill Maelin  
Bill Canteen  
Daymon & Neffie  
Sylvester Childs  
Rodney Lowry  
Ossie Jackson  
Eric Roudez  
Gail Canteen  
Sharon Henderson  
Zenabia Henderson  
Monissa Childs  
Darren Ampey  
Mr. Dunbar  
Andrew Ferguson  
Harold Lewis  
Rhonda Henderson  
Al Slater  
George Gilbert  
Elder Willie Moore  
Clarence Taylor  
Tracey Moore  
Waveney Hodge  
R. Bellamy  
Rev. S. Ingram  
Alma Cunningham  
Clyde Horton Jr.  
Ryan McDay  
Samiyah Holloway  
Willie Troy  
Bishop Charles Morgan  
Emma Lucas  
Robert White III  
Shirley Yancey

Quamara Jenkins  
Khadijah Smith  
Anjaya Evans  
Debbie Foster  
Lisa Gaskin  
Gregg Tswago  
Deneah Johnson  
Simo Boto  
Michael Carr  
Shikiya Martin  
Rashida White  
Michelle Reevey  
Ayisha Shepperson  
Sharonda Turner  
Maisha Abdullah  
Sabrina Clark  
Yolanda Crawford  
Malcolm Jefferson  
Marc Lee  
Monique McNeil  
Denise Harris-Hooker  
Toni Bryant  
Nyree Remy  
Chandra Mustafaa  
Shadi Johnson  
Cedric Kirk  
Kristen Osnate  
Lailah Abdul-Mateem  
Samaiyah Ali  
Takiya Akbar  
Sakinah Ahmed  
Shalena Amiger  
Derek Amiger  
Kamal Amiger  
Faheemah Ali  
Timothy Simmons  
Mizan Akbar  
Ruqayyah Akbar

**dominate - rule - we are #1**

# SENIORS

rule • we are #1 • dominate•

\* we are #1 • rule • dominate • the best • the cream of the crop • we are #1 • rule • dominate • the best • we are #1 • rule •



The best - the cream of the crop • we are #1 • true • dominate • the best - the cream of the crop

# SENIORS

**dominate • rule • we are #1**

rule : we are #1 · dominate

We are #1 • rule • dominate • The best • we are #1 • rule •



Commemorative Edition

08-09®

# World Beat



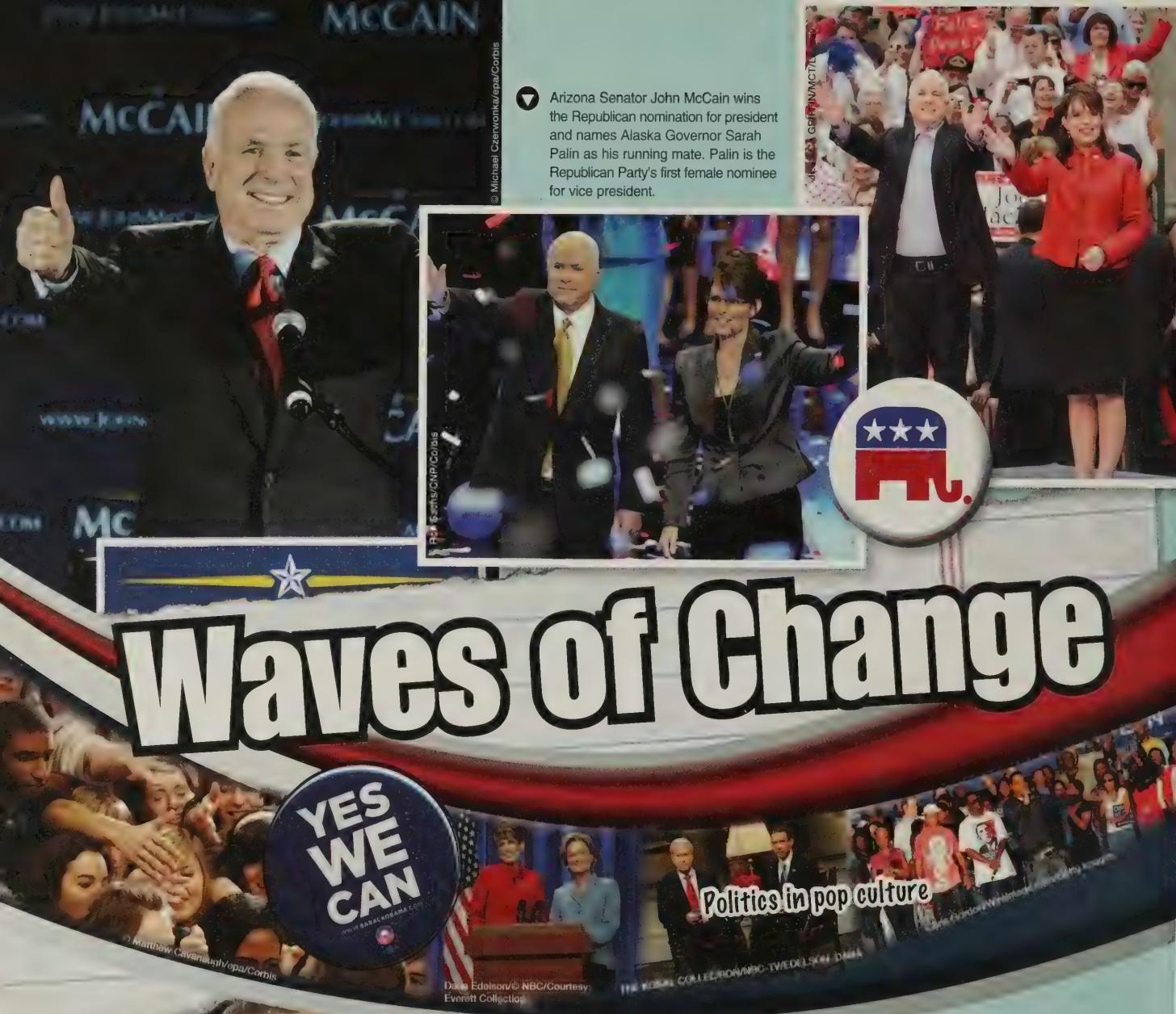
EMPLOYMENT  
SERVICES \*\*\*

MITCH DUMKE/Reuters/Landov

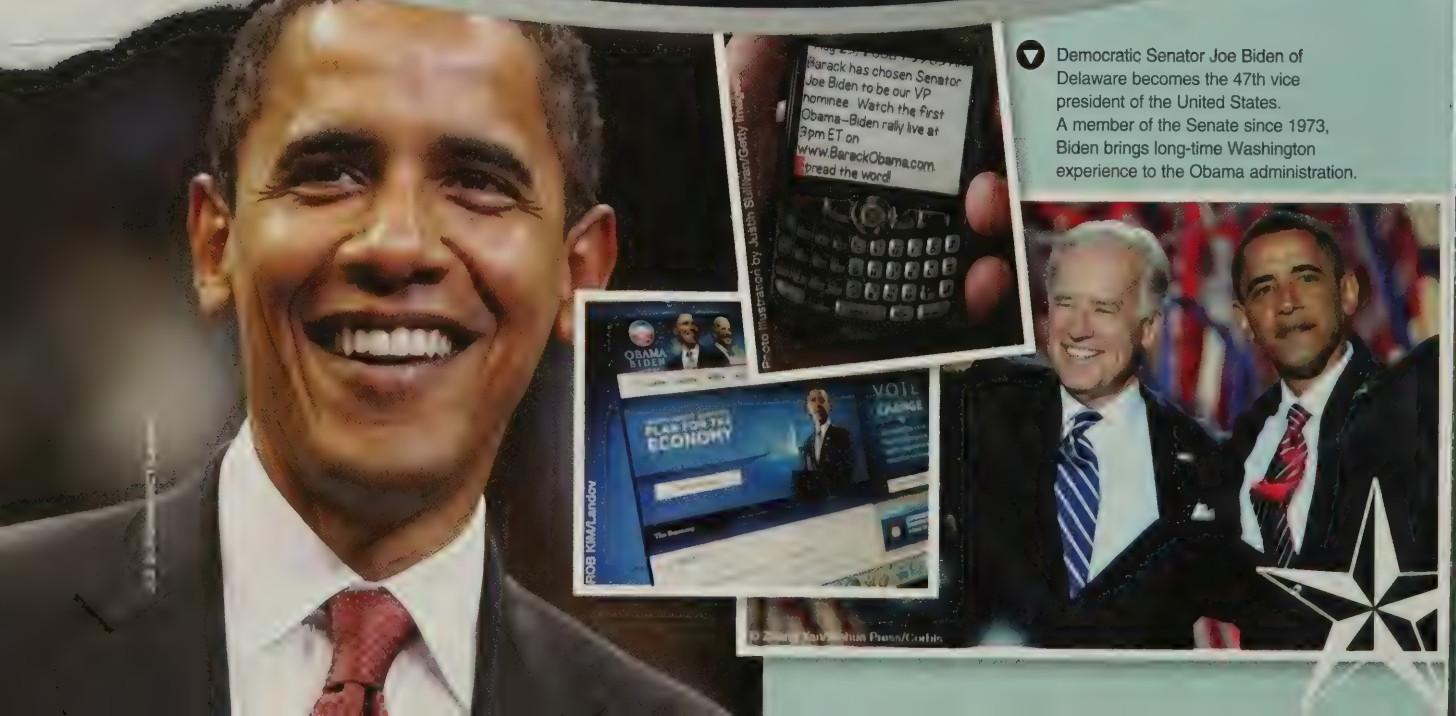


Kristin Dowling/Gerry Images





Arizona Senator John McCain wins the Republican nomination for president and names Alaska Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate. Palin is the Republican Party's first female nominee for vice president.



Democratic Senator Joe Biden of Delaware becomes the 47th vice president of the United States. A member of the Senate since 1973, Biden brings long-time Washington experience to the Obama administration.



Barack Obama makes history as the first African-American to win the presidency of the United States. The former Illinois senator promises an era of change that captures the imagination of voters nationwide.

### Electoral Votes

|        |     |
|--------|-----|
| Obama  | 365 |
| McCain | 173 |

REUTERS/Jason Reed/Landov

# Obama Wins



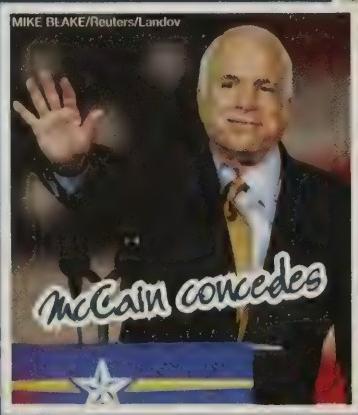
AP Photo/Jim Cole

AP Photo/Chris Carlson

AP Photo/David Guttenfelder

PAT BENIC/OLYMPIC

McCain/Palin run a strong campaign, winning 22 states. But they are defeated 53 vs. 46 percent in the general election and by a substantial margin in the Electoral College.



Celebrations around the world



## Obama's Cabinet nominations

REUTERS/Landov



In January 2009, president-elect Obama attends the ultimate power lunch in the White House, meeting and getting advice from President Bush as well as former Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

## Getting prepared for office

KEVIN LAMARQUE/Reuters/Landov



## Souvenirs

PAT BENIC/UPI/Landov

During the inauguration ceremony, Malia Obama captures the moment from a unique point of view.

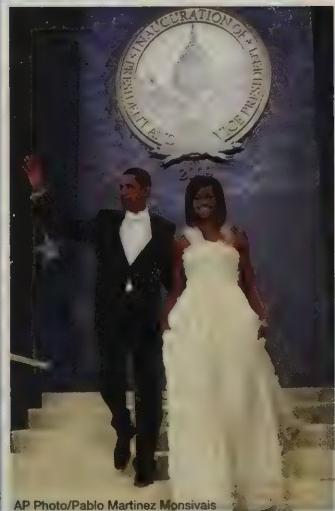


Ralf Fife/Histolt/Corbis

Inauguration  
1-20-09

MSGT CECILIO RICARDO/UPI/Landov

Barack Obama is sworn in as the 44th president of the United States before millions in Washington, D.C. Obama's inaugural address calls for a "new era of responsibility" in the face of economic decline and a pledge to choose "hope over fear."



AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais



JUSTIN LANE/EPA

"We have chosen hope over fear...."



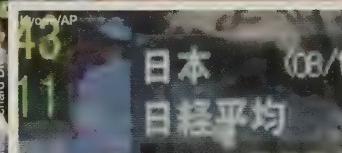
JIM BOURG/Reuters/Corbis

# Economic Crisis World News



AP Photo/Richard Drew

Stocks plummet as years of excess in the U.S. housing market and lax supervision of financial institutions contribute to the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.



Unemployment rate hits 16-year high in January 2009

MITCH DUMKE/Reuters

District of Columbia Department of  
**EMPLOYMENT  
SERVICES** \*\*\*  
Bring Washington to the Marketplace

With buying power declining in the consumer marketplace, companies nationwide are forced to lay off workers. The national unemployment rate hits 7.2 percent in December and is rising steadily. The hardest hit states are Michigan, Rhode Island, California and South Carolina.

## Housing Foreclosures

Exclusive

Exclusively

Windermere  
Gated Residential Estate



Photo by Larry W. Smith/Getty Images

Detroit's struggling "Big Three" automakers, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, request and are eventually offered a bailout package of just over \$17 billion in December.

# GOING OUT OF BUSINESS



Many retailers are forced to file for bankruptcy or go out of business after being unable to rebound from the harsh economy and a very disappointing fourth quarter of 2008.

Support our Troops



The world's "hot spots" center around the Middle East. Israel mounts a major offensive against Hamas in Gaza, the United States continues to oppose the Taliban in Afghanistan and insurgents in Iraq, and in August, Russia attacks its southern neighbor, Georgia, in a dispute over western influence in the area.



"Miracle on the Hudson"



In January 2009, after both engines fail due to ingesting birds, US Airways Flight 1549 ditches in New York's Hudson River. All 155 passengers and crew members are saved, thanks to the skill and courage of pilot Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger.





# Changing our World

PA Photo/Landov

## Reusable bags



Environmentally conscious consumers use items such as reusable cloth shopping bags and Klean Kanteen water bottles that don't leak harmful chemicals like BPA.



Public bicycle sharing systems, already popular in Europe, roll into American cities like Washington, D.C., to help fight traffic congestion and reduce pollution.

Tight money and high gas prices push auto manufacturers to investigate super fuel-efficient and electric cars. The Chevrolet Volt is an early contender and the tiny "Smart" car is already on American roads.



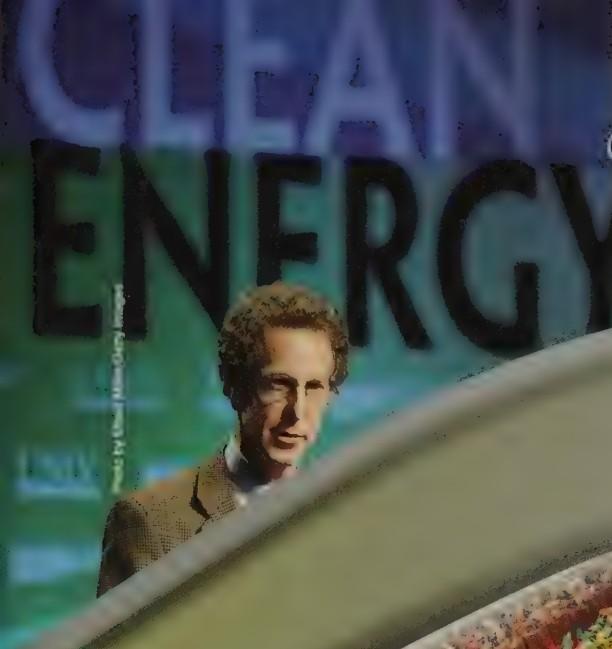
© Transtock/Corbis

## Chevy Volt



© Car Culture/Corbis





In September, Google and General Electric partner to develop clean technologies. Modernizing the national electric grid to enable wider deployment of wind, solar and geothermal energy will be an early priority.



Courtesy of Apple, Inc.



Mark Mainz/Getty Images

Brad Pitt launches the "Make It Right" project to build 150 green-sensitive new homes in the New Orleans Lower 9th Ward, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Pitt contributes \$5 million to the project.



Michael Avenatti/Getty Images

## National Day of Service

President-elect Obama asks all Americans to volunteer their time on the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, January 19, and to continue throughout the year. More than 12,000 service projects take place across the country.

The green cleaning movement gains momentum nationally as environmentally safe non-toxic cleaning products are used in many homes, as well as state and city institutions.



AP Photo/Charles Dharapak



# Summer Olympics

The Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics showcase some of the most amazing performances in Olympic history.

# Sports

The Olympic  
Opening Ceremony

AP Photo/Color China Photo

Usain Bolt  
Fastest man  
EVER!

Cristiano Ronaldo



American swimmer Michael Phelps makes Olympic history with eight gold medals. Phelps sets three world records in his five individual wins.

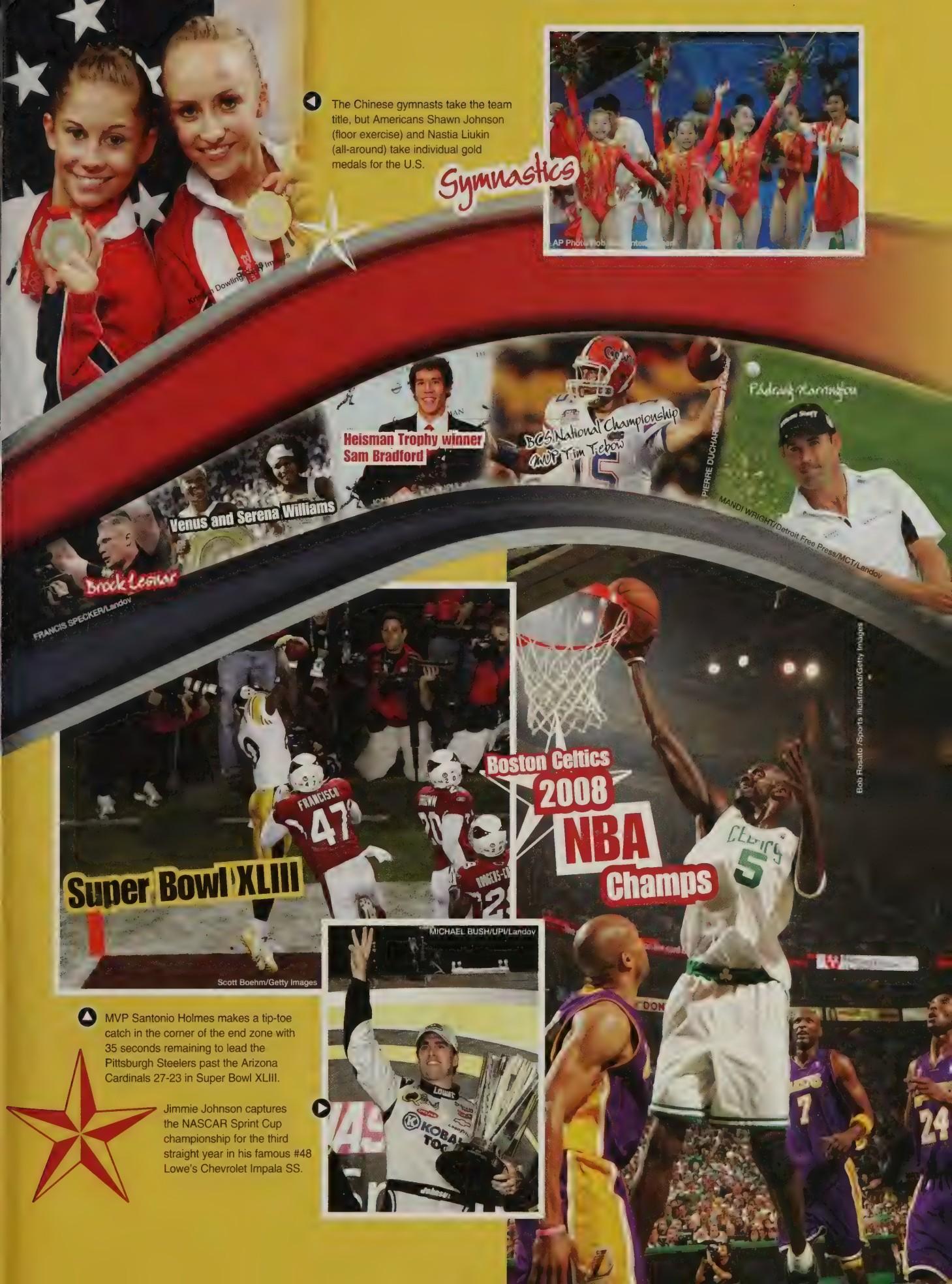
Tiger Woods

Karen Jones

Red Wings win  
2008 Stanley Cup

World Series

The Philadelphia Phillies win their second World Series with a five game victory over the Tampa Bay Rays. The fifth game takes three days to complete after a rain delay.

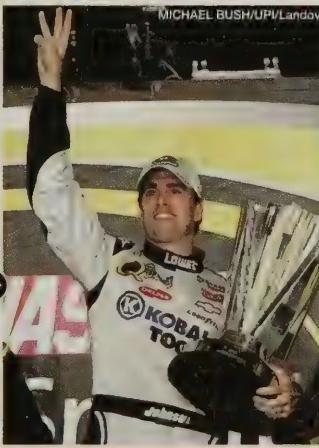


The Chinese gymnasts take the team title, but Americans Shawn Johnson (floor exercise) and Nastia Liukin (all-around) take individual gold medals for the U.S.

## Gymnastics



Jimmie Johnson captures the NASCAR Sprint Cup championship for the third straight year in his famous #48 Lowe's Chevrolet Impala SS.



Bob Rosato/Sports Illustrated/Getty Images

MVP Santonio Holmes makes a tip-toe catch in the corner of the end zone with 35 seconds remaining to lead the Pittsburgh Steelers past the Arizona Cardinals 27-23 in Super Bowl XLIII.



Scott Boehm/Getty Images



Bob Rosato/Sports Illustrated/Getty Images

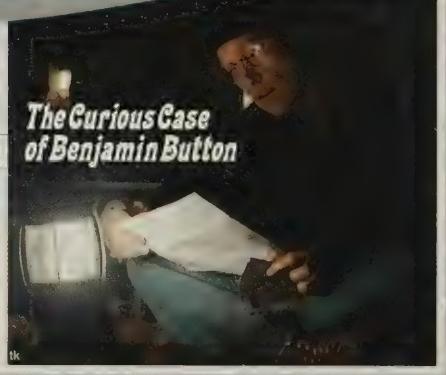
# Entertainment



© MGM/courtesy Everett Collection



© Fox Searchlight/courtesy Everett Collection



*The Curious Case  
of Benjamin Button*

*Slumdog Millionaire*, a surprise entry from India about teen life in Mumbai, and Brad Pitt's *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, about a man who ages backwards, monopolize Academy Award nominations with a combined total of 23.

Stephenie Meyer's runaway best-seller, *Twilight*, becomes a hit movie starring Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart as Edward and Bella.



Tina Fey

© Jen Mathews/NBC/Courtesy Everett Collection

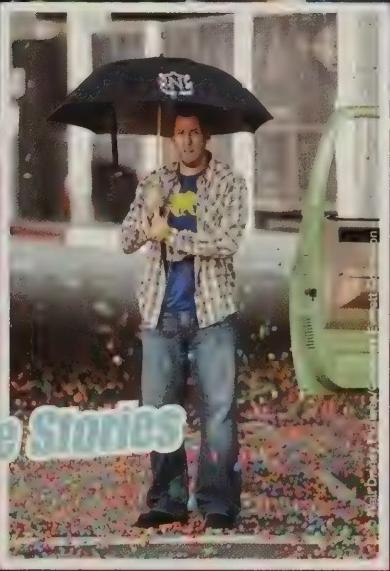
© Sony Pictures/Everett Collection



MTV spins off the reality show *The Hills*, following Laguna Beach star Lauren Conrad and her friends to Los Angeles.



Australian Heath Ledger, in his last film role as the Joker in the Batman epic *The Dark Knight*, wins a posthumous Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama.



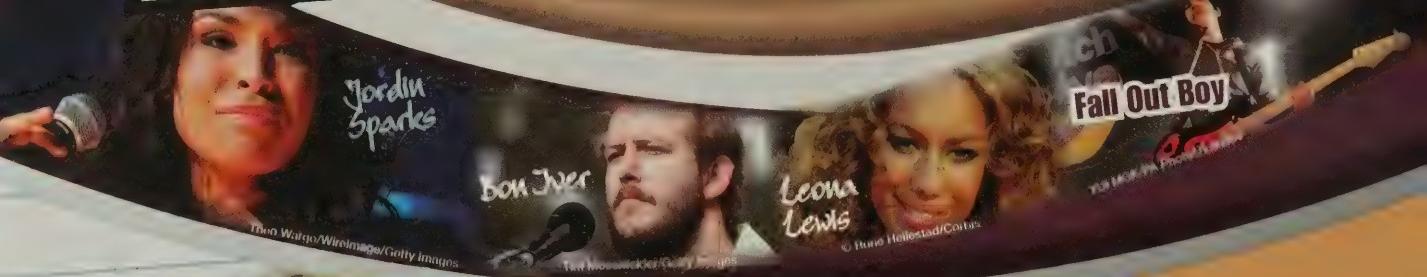


Lil' Wayne

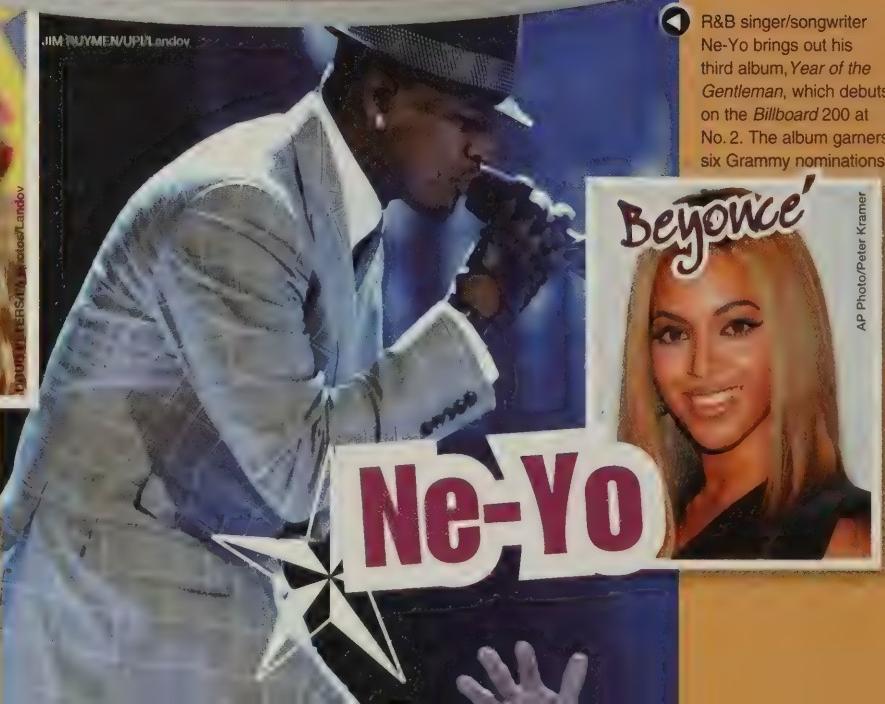


Rapper Lil' Wayne takes home four Grammys, including Rap Album of the Year for *Tha Carter III* and Best Rap Song.

# Music



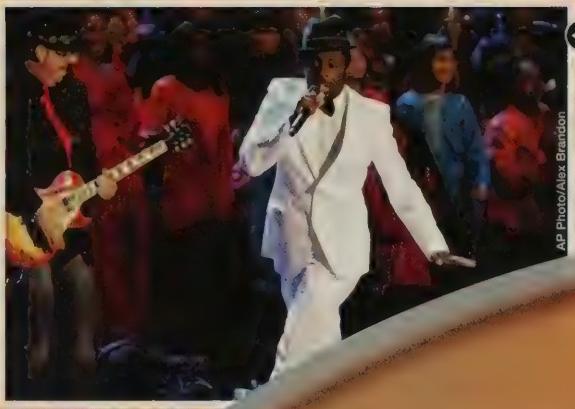
Britney Spears rebounds from years of personal challenges with her fifth No. 1 album, *Circus*. She becomes the only act in Nielsen SoundScan history to have four albums that debut with 500,000 or more copies sold.



Ne-Yo

R&B singer/songwriter Ne-Yo brings out his third album, *Year of the Gentleman*, which debuts on the *Billboard* 200 at No. 2. The album garners six Grammy nominations.

AP Photo/Peter Kramer



AP Photo/Alex Brandon

The video for Will.i.am's song "Yes We Can" garners more than 1.3 million hits on YouTube and becomes an anthem for young voters during the presidential campaign.



## Classic Rock



Taylor Swift

Hutton-Deutsch Collection



David vs. David

Kristin Callahan Everett Collection



Rocker David Cook, with 58 percent of the fan votes, beats balladeer David Archuleta in the 2008 finals of Fox's American Idol.

▼ Fox's *American Idol* adds a fourth judge to the

popular show. Grammy-nominated songwriter Kara DioGuardi joins regular panelists Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell.



Photo:fest/Fox Broadcast



# Lifestyle

Slippers to wear every day



Top style trends this year include baggy pants, oversized sunglasses, designer purses, black nail polish and plaids.

Big Sunglasses

Photo by Barry King/WireImage © Getty Images

## Designer Purses & Shoes



jostens®

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Katibah Ali   Meleah Connor   Gabrielle Barbara  
Malik Covington   Cheyenne Gaston  
Tajjara Granberry   Nekra Hussain  
Nadira Peart-Williams   Jivona Robinson  
Monica Pettis   Marquis Frost

